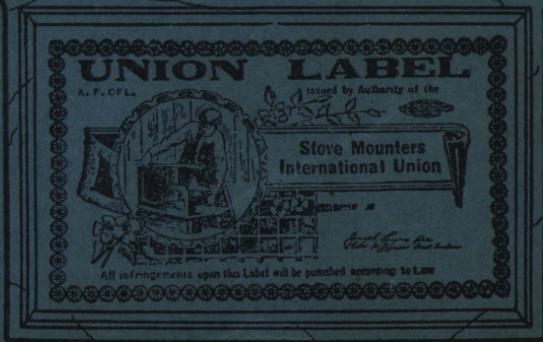


# STOVE Mounters & Range WORKERS JOURNAL



Stove Mounters, Enamelers,  
Range Workers,  
Gas Range Mounters,  
Furnace Mounters,  
Drillers, Pattern Fitters,  
Pattern Filers.

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor  
Metal Trades Dept. and Union Label Trades Dept.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY  
THE STOVE MOUNTERS INTERNATIONAL UNION of N.A.  
ST. LOUIS MISSOURI



**GEORGE MEANY, Sec., Treas. of A. F. of L.**

# Stove Mounters' International Union of North America

"Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor"  
Metal Trades Department and Union Label Trades Department



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ST. LOUIS, MO., JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, THIRD QUARTER, 1947

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE FIELD

#### REPORT OF JOSEPH LEWIS, GENERAL PRESIDENT

Our 27th International Union Convention is now history and in this issue of the Journal the entire record of the convention is recorded for the entire membership of our organization.

The delegates to this 27th Convention worked hard, they understood all of our problems and were men and women who carried out their convictions as they saw them, the result is a better understanding, and a revision of the Constitution, which will result in a better and bigger Stove Mounters' Union.

Your International Executive Board and your Constitution Revision Committee have just completed a full week's hard work, the result of this week's work will be your new Constitution with all its changes, amendments and revisions. I want to thank all locals responsible for the election

of this District Committee. They did a splendid job and were a great help to your Executive Board.

We will have an organizing report for all of our membership in our last Journal, the last quarter of 1947. After that you will receive our organizing report through the Stove Mounters' paper. I can report, however, the organizing of Local No. 135, Nashville, Tenn., since our last Journal.

You will find in the convention proceedings the report of the Convention Committee on Organization. This committee recommended the formation of Women's Auxiliaries in each and every one of our local unions. It is my hope that when all locals receive a call from the International Secretary they will heed this call and immediately organize these auxiliaries.

The question of Women's Auxiliaries ties in very closely with the Union Label, it is imperative now more than ever that each firm be contacted by the local officers, and by the Interna-

tional Union officers, and prevail upon them to use the new Union Label which is to be issued by the International office. This is the new Decalcomania transfer label and will stay on forever, and I would recommend that it be placed on the back of stoves, ranges or heaters and not on the front of these appliances where the housewife will scrape it off. In other words anyone looking for the label will be able to find it whether in the store or after it has been purchased by the customer. These new labels can now be ordered from the secretary.

Each local secretary has been mailed four different bulletins on the Taft-Hartley law. These bulletins are prepared by Judge Padway, general counsel for the American Federation of Labor, and each local should see that its officers meet to discuss these bulletins so as to absorb all the facts in connection with the responsibility of all local unions. I hope that each local will see that this is carried out in full.

I am happy to report the purchase of a building for your International Union headquarters. This purchase was made while the Executive Board was in session with the District Constitution Committee, and with consent of our 27th Convention. We are quite proud of our accomplishment on this purchase and in the very near future we will have it completed for occupation. It means that we go forward another step in making our organization bigger and better in every respect.

In closing this report I wish to thank each and every delegate for their support at the convention, and for your faith in re-electing me for another term as your General President.

Fraternally,  
JOSEPH LEWIS,  
General President.

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**JOURNAL REPORT**  
**REPORT OF 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT**  
**RAYMOND LEVINGSTON**

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As this is our first Journal since our Convention, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Convention Committee for their fine work, in making our last Convention, one of the most successful Conventions in

the history of the Mounters' Union.

Also, for the fine entertainment arrangement for the Delegates. Our Executive Board, with a representative from each district, met in the City of St. Louis, August 19th.

After several days, we believe, all the resolutions that were concurred in, at the convention, was taken care of.

Fraternally,  
Raymond Levingston,  
Vice-President

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**REPORT OF 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT**  
**KENNETH PETRO**

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The twenty-seventh Convention of the Stove Mounters' International Union, held within the last quarter, at Kalamazoo, Mich., found Delegates of Locals from all parts of the Country, busy at work consolidating ideas in the form of resolutions all with the sole purpose of seeing our great organization progress.

On the other hand the Anti-Labor groups in Washington were hard at work finding ways and means to handicap Labor and if possible destroy organized Labor.

I attended the Executive Board meeting held in Kalamazoo, the week prior to the convention, also attended the convention held the third week of July.

On August 18, I attended the joint meeting of the Constitution Revision Committee and the International Executive Board.

Since my return to the coast I've been busy assisting various Locals on grievances and working on committees on the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law.

The enactment of the Taft-Hartley Law means that we must unite ourselves more than ever, for this is just a little part of what the National Association of Manufacturers would like to do to organized Labor.

Attend your Local meetings regularly, be sure that you are a registered voter and above all vote every City, State and General election for men that have a thought for Labor and remove from office the makers and supporters of bills such as the Taft-Hartley Bill, which should be called the Attorneys Full Employment Bill, for from now on Attorneys throughout the Country will be busy trying to

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EDW. W. KAISER, Editor  
2806 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis 7, Mo.  
Telephone: NE-0489

Vol. LII July-August-September No. 3  
Third Quarter, 1947

interpret the Taft-Hartley Law.

Fraternally Yours,  
KENNETH PETRO  
Vice-President

REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING  
3RD VICE-PRESIDENT  
JAS. F. GRUBBS

The beginning of this quarter I was in Dallas, Texas where I assisted the Committee of Local 103 in signing a closed shop contract to run for a period of two years with several major changes that we feel will be of great help to the Local.

While in Dallas I visited several unorganized shops as well as the Texilite Enamel Company now on strike. These people are represented by the United Steel Workers C.I.O. and many of the people are very much dissatisfied.

I left Dallas and went to Chattanooga, Tenn. and signed contract for Local 37, American Manufacturing Company.

Leaving Chattanooga and going to Lewisburg, Tenn. for the purpose of auditing books of Local 14 and worked several days with the Local Committee

on re-organizing the Local.

I have been working with the employees of the Philip-Burtoff Company and am at present waiting for an N.L.R.B. hearing on the case as the Company refused to the consent election.

I have visited the Ferro Enamel Company, a new plant located in Nashville and hope by my next report to have these people lined up with our Union.

I have taken care of all grievances and have tried to visit all of our Locals as time permits.

I attended our International Convention in Kalamazoo, Mich. and I want to say that it was one of the best and I believe that if the interest that was shown at that convention will continue through the coming three years that we will double our membership before the next convention.

I attended the Executive Board meeting in St. Louis along with the Constitution Committee and I believe that I speak for the entire Board when I say that we enjoyed very much the week that we worked with these brothers.

As this writing goes to the press I am leaving for Richmond, Va. where I hope to be of some help to Local 115 in getting a fair and just wage increase.

In conclusion I want to take this opportunity to thank my many friends for the honor and confidence placed in me at our last convention and will promise to carry out my duties as Vice-President to the best of my ability.

Fraternally submitted  
JAS. F. GRUBBS,  
Vice-President, S.M.I.U.

REPORT FOR THE JOURNAL  
4TH VICE-PRESIDENT  
LEO F. LUCAS

August 30, 1947

Now that the Convention is over and we are back to work, I want to thank the Delegates for the confidence they placed in me in electing me Vice-President. I shall try to do the best job possible. I know this International shall make great strides under the leadership of President Lewis and Secretary Kaiser in the coming 3 years.

LEO F. LUCAS

**QUARTERLY REPORT FOR THE  
JOURNAL OF  
JOHN F. GREEN,  
ENAMEL VICE-PRESIDENT**

First of all, my sincere thanks to all of our members for re-electing me as Enamel Vice-President for another term.

During the last quarter I spent considerable time with Local 105, Effingham, Ill., assisting them in building their organization to a substantial membership and also assisting the new officers.

Also attended to the affairs of Local 113, Freeburg, Ill., where we had several grievances adjusted satisfactorily.

Paid a visit to Local 43, Indianapolis, Ind., to check over the books upon request of the officers and we found a shortage existed in the Financial Secretary's books.

Visited N. L. R. B. office to get information on the disposition of a case we had pending and found firm conceded to comply with order regarding Local 99, Red Bud, Ill. We will now have to begin to reorganize these people in the very near future.

Assisted in conferences of Local 107 with Special Representative James Roberts regarding new contract.

Attended all sessions of our Executive Board prior to opening of our convention and also all sessions of the convention.

Visited Local 115 in Richmond, Va., where they are now in negotiations for an increase in wages.

Besides assisting in settlement of some grievances in this locality and attending local meetings when possible, I am at this writing assisting Special Representative James Roberts in some organizing work which we can report on later.

Also meeting at the present time with members of our International Executive Board and the committee selected from the various districts to make the changes in our International Constitution as were mandated by the business transacted at our International Convention, some of which will allow us as your International Officers to be able to cope with the obstacles ahead.

Fraternally submitted,  
JOHN F. GREEN,  
Enamel Vice-Pres.

**THIRD QUARTER REPORT  
RUSS O'NEAL, VICE-PRESIDENT**

This past third quarter has found me busy keeping in contact with all my locals and attending their various meetings.

In July I spent a great deal of my time working with the American Mfg. Co. Local No. 37, in Chattanooga helping them negotiate and secure some advantageous gains for their local.

Also in July I worked closely with the committee and Local No. 53, Tenn. Enamel Company in Nashville, Tenn., trying to negotiate their contract. Our chief worry here has been and still is the "no strike clause." President Jos. Lewis has been down to help us try and clarify this situation.

July 6th, I left for Kalamazoo, Mich., to attend the board meeting, which convened one week before the regular 27th International Convention met. Was glad once again to sit with my fellow board members in conference. Several issues were brought to our attention and much time was spent on these.

I found it a great pleasure to be meeting in the city of Kalamazoo, Mich., and was greatly impressed by the cleanliness and industriousness of the city.

The entertainment provided by the committees was muchly appreciated. The places we visited and the shops we were conducted through were most interesting and educational. We all enjoyed the trip over to Battle Creek, Mich., where we were conducted through the huge Kellogg plant. During the convention proper, there was never a spare moment as the northern local committeemen had really a well-planned program and included on this was a very successful banquet and equally enjoyable ball. Certainly they deserve a big hand for such an enjoyable time.

The main news of the convention, over which Jos. Lewis presided so capably, was the Taft-Hartley bill. There was much discussion concerning its meaning and various effects. The last day of the convention the new board members were elected.

Early in the month of August I helped Phillip Burdorff, Local 135, try to arrange for a consent election.

My newest work has been organiz-

ing the Nashville Wire Products Co. This place employs approximately 75 people and should prove to be a most worthwhile local. Have had the help of Bro. Robert Sullivan in securing the names and address of these people. I muchly appreciate this aid. So far I have had very good results and hope to be able to report a new local soon.

Fraternally yours,  
C. RUSS O'NEAL,  
Vice-President.

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REPORT OF SECRETARY-  
TREASURER  
EDW. W. KAISER

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The start of this quarter we were getting ready for our Convention and to which I can say it was a splendid Convention, while I have had good cooperation with all the officers and members of our organization in the past, and I sincerely hope that we will prosper and be able to carry out the democratic principles of our Union, we are faced with some weighty questions that require much thought, we will have to carry out a program to meet with the law, until such time as it is repealed or declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States, this is a law and we are as American citizens must obey it, if a law is injurious to the peoples welfare, then it will be declared unconstitutional, but we will have to live with it until such time as the decision is made, Labor is not responsible for the higher cost of living, labor must have a nest egg as well as the employer, it is good business that we as Americans, be the provider for each other regardless of others out side of our own country, first, then we as Christians must not let civilized people starve, lift up the down trodden and care for them as you would your own, cherish that which has given you good health, and the necessities of life, speak well of him, and place him in a position that he too can enjoy life, this brings on good citizens, keep down juvenile delinquency, which is so badly needed especially in the Metropolitan areas, let labor and management set down at the table and draw that imaginary line between

them and both move as close to that line in their negotiations, and the results will be a comprehensive understanding of each others affairs, as one needs the other, as man needs a wife to care for the family, contempt is the undoing of the free life we have in America, to destroy it is very simple, a good example was shown when Hitler destroyed labor organizations, the Church, Fraternal Orders and any thing that would permit peoples to gather in groups, other than at his beckoning, look back to the beginning, and today what remains in the country and in Europe, let us not make any such mistake, we hope our government will not condone, such unethical laws, that any foreign move will be permitted to thrive in this country, so as to gain control of the minds of Americans, and destroy our American Democracy, I am of a firm belief that industry will not want to lose the free enterprise system, nor will they want to destroy labor, if this Taft-Hartley Act is for the sole purpose of curbing and destroying labor unions, then labor will see that the same treatment will come to the employers, we know that certain lines, are not on a legitimate basis as to competitive dealing, we know that certainly there has been a set up or they have been in conclusion with each other through organization in setting of prices, and that the law has been violated, but eventually those that violate such laws run afoul of them, and are punished by the government, the American worker earned the laurels of production in war time and now in peace time, and the reward of such faithful loyalty to his country is legislation that as the Taft-Hartley Law, this reminds me of the gallant Soldiers and Sailors and those that formed our first line of defense, the cry was save our Democracy, what have they saved, big interests, big estates, most of them have no homes to move into, what price glory? Now that the G.I. is back, he has no say, only that if he aborbed what propaganda that was spread about the workers in this country going on strike and letting them down, well if the truth was made known those that were responsible for the strikes were those that sought to make the biggest profits off the government and refused to pay the worker the just compensation

for his labor, how many legionnaires are in organized labor? Why don't they try to set them down, why because then a howl that would shake the nation would be heard, the only recognition the ex-service man gets now is through the American Legion, Vets of Foreign Wars, and such otherwise other than legislation he is the forgotten man, well we will remember this day and era, what injustices have been inflicted upon free labor as they call us, under bondage, by the aggressor, let us be good Americans. Our shoulders are broad from the toils of labor and the producers of that which keeps the wheels and life unimpeded, and tries to keep down discontent in our great country

Fraternally,  
EDW. W. KAISER  
Secretary-Treasurer

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**JOURNAL REPORT  
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE  
JAMES M. ROBERTS**

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I attended our 27th International Convention at Kalamazoo, Mich., and let me say this, that this convention was all business. A finer delegation of delegates was never assembled at any convention. History was made for the Stove Mounters' International Union. I think the delegates to this convention elected an executive board that is all business and will operate for the best interests of all of our members. I have since had the opportunity of meeting with them.

Immediately following the convention, I completed and signed the 1947 contract for Local No. 7, Brower Mfg. Co., of Quincy, Ill. In this contract we received a 10 cents per hour increase in wages straight across the board on all classifications of work, a progressive system, from starters to maximum rates; also a five cents per hour increase on the starters rates and liberalized other clauses.

Completed and signed Local No. 100 1947 contract with Jackes-Evans Co. in St. Louis, Mo. We received 13 cents per hour increase in wages, liberalized vacation clause. Last year it read 1 week's vacation for 1 year's service, 2 weeks for 5 years' service. Now we

have 1 week for 1 year's service and 2 weeks for 3 years' service and 2 paid holidays.

Completed and signed Local No. 107 1947 contract of E. E. Sother Iron Co., St. Louis, Mo., receiving 11½ cents per hour increase on all classifications of work, 6 paid holidays, revised vacation clause instead of 1 week for 1 year's service and 2 weeks for 5 years' service. It now reads 1 week for 1 year's service and 2 weeks for 3 years' service. A good grievance clause and a good Union security clause.

I've started negotiations on wages for the Hussmann-Ligonier Co. Local No. 110, St. Louis, Mo. We have had two meetings but have not come at this writing to a settlement as yet. All other provisions are agreeable and signed.

I am now making contacts in Breeze, Ill., on a new shop. I hope to land this shop soon.

The Auto Stove Works case of Local No. 52 is still in the hands of the N. L. R. B. Nothing further can be done on this case until the final hearing is held before the board. This has been a long drawn out struggle, but we think we will be victorious in the end. The pickets are doing a magnificent job at the New Athens, Ill., plant. Too much credit cannot be given these loyal members. They are fighting a battle that long will be remembered in the minds and hearts of the Stove Mounters all over the nation.

In closing let me say this, that the delegates at our last convention have now made it possible to broaden and strengthen our International Union.

Fraternally,  
JAMES M. ROBERTS,  
Special Rep.

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**REPORT OF SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE JOHN D. ROBERTS**

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I am happy to report at this time that all Agreements are settled with the exception of one, The Occidental Stove Company. We have three minor shop conditions to iron out. We were fortunate to get the Spark Stove Company contract settled before the dead line, August 21st, of the Taft-Hartley

Bill. In regard to the Taft-Hartley Bill, I believe all Officers and Members should do all in their power to rally to the Polls at election time to elect to the Office of Congress and the Senate people who would be fair in their decisions in regards to the Labor movement. It is time we got out to register and vote for people we know are working in our behalf. By getting out and voting we know we are doing something to correct this situation. That is one way of having our say.

I would like to report that the Convention was, I believe, one of the nicest conventions anyone would want to attend. One that Organized Labor can be proud of as everyone behaved far above reproach. I believe the Michigan District will share this feeling with me as they did everything in their power to make this Convention a success.

Fraternally Submitted,  
JOHN D. ROBERTS,  
Special Representative

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**REPORT OF EDWIN F. KAISER,**  
**ASST. SECY.**  
**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

The convention has come and gone, and has kept us very busy compiling our convention report, and adjusting the constitution with the new resolutions passed at our convention, as most members do not understand the amount of work, and time that is required to compile these changes, we can only say bear with us, and we will have a complete report out to the locals shortly.

Our convention was very much of a success and I might say the committees did a good job in making our convention one of the best, I know the amount of hard work that it takes to do these things, and I want to say you did a fine job.

I have again been busy settling grievances, negotiating contracts, and spending quite a bit of time doing organizing work, I have been working with Locals Nos. 107-110-126-135-11-108. I am happy to report my organizing drive on the Star Mfg. Co. here in St. Louis, and the progress has been good, I only hope I can report for the next Journal another new local added to our roster. I have been in contact with

held here starting July 15, 1947. All Delegates who have not made reservations at one of our hotels should do so at once and if confirmation is not given at once, they should contact the committee on housing here so you can be taken care of.

Let's all turn out for this convention and make it the best ever. We are looking forward to seeing all of you here in July. Make those reservations today!

the Stove Repair men in the furniture stores, and have received replies from their business agent with whom they are affiliated, that we can get together very shortly and work out our jurisdiction for the stove men, we know our rates in our industry are very much higher than what these men are now receiving.

I want to congratulate the new members of our Executive Board and wish them every success, and also our Brothers who were re-elected to their same jobs.

We must learn to keep faith and put our trust in our Brother and Sister in order that our progress will not be slowed, and to help us build a stronger and bigger organization, we can only do these things by helping one and another, and not by thinking of only our selfish gains.

Fraternally submitted,  
**EDWIN F. KAISER**

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**CONVENTION NOTES**

The 27th Convention went into session on July 15, 1947, at Masonic Temple, Kalamazoo, Mich., at 10 A. M. Many old timers were there as delegates, as well as younger members. It was the writer's pleasure to meet with all the delegates as close as I can recall it. We had very prominent speakers to address the convention, and during their address Old Moe was there with his daily dozen and necktie party about hanging an innocent man. I. N. Ornburn, secretray, Union Label Trades Department, who is quite a humorist like old Will Rogers, injected into his address the way to force the picture of buying Union Label, Shop Card and Button. We fight to feed ourselves by our label. Let's fight to feed the Union Label to

all workers. This will knock out chiselers, price cutting and eventually wage reductions.

We are aware we need economic stabilization. We handle more money and that is because it takes more to purchase things. It sounds like H—LL. It's a good thing we do not have to trade with commodities as each one of us would have to have a moving van to swap off with the other. Just imagine Jake Sedegin and Art Moran ordering a big steak. I can see this picture like television. The bill of \$6.12. They would have a truck outside with a quarter ton of coal to pay in exchange for the steak. The question is how many steaks per week would both eat? Or would they let things accumulate and order "Hash" at a bushel per plate.

Well, more is to be said. Brother George Reis, Brother Grimshaw, Brother Prettyman, some of the oldest, and Brother Sanders who had met me upon adjournment after having quite a time all week, told me some sad news of his brother dying at Memphis, Tenn. Quite an unfortunate thing to mar his splendid week of meeting new friends and renewing old friendships.

May I take this opportunity to commend the chairmen of the various committees on the fine work they have done. These are as follows: Brother Baker, Constitution Committee; Brother Badgley, Resolutions; Brother Moses. Officers Reports; Brother Schmidt, Credentials; Sisters Stancroff and Yarger, Union Labels; Brother Bowman, Rules; Brother Reckeway, Jurisdiction, and Brother Ford, Organizing. All these people help with the very important work of the convention and have done a splendid job.

I also want to thank Brothers Cooper and Fogleson for their fine work on the Entertainment and Arrangements Committee and on housing the delegates. These are no easy jobs and I know this from my own experience when a convention was held in St. Louis after World War I.

The past convention at Kalamazoo, Mich., was one of the largest in our history and not a moment was wasted. Business carried on in good time.

The old-timers were well represented, to name a few, Brother Peter

Hemmer and Brother Arthur Hale from Belleville, Brother Joseph Gallarda and Brother Sutton and Brother Bill Howard as well as Brother Tom Smith and Brother Clarence Beaudoin.

The coast was well represented with Brother Rose, Brother Booker and Brother DeHart who was the driver of the auto won by some member in the O'Keefe Shop in Los Angeles. What a time that delegate had. I do not think anyone missed meeting Jumping Joe Elias from the Clam Coast and as I understand it, the bake will be August 2, 1947, Local No. 40.

Carl Dickey and Eugene Ehrhard teamed up pretty well, for when I was leaving the convention headquarters they were cussing or discussing who should do this or that in regards to the humorous water involved. It sounded like Hamlet—"to be or not to be," and Norbitt will vouch for this.

When everything else closed the delegates' rooms lit up and a tour sponsored by various delegations was the order and this went on into the small hours of the morning with visitors of the locals' groups also on hand. If I missed any names, I mean them too.

The banquet brought many of the family together and was enjoyed by management from Albion Shops, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo and Owosso. It was most gratifying to note the expressions evidenced by a full capacity of victuals loaded with X. Y. Z. vitamins. It was fine of Jim Baker to say the dinner speakers would be brief. As it was, the speakers had to make up the addresses extemporaneously and that facilitated matters considerably so the tables could be cleared for further action. Brother Lutz and the Mrs. stated the crew across the hotel hallway or the Hall Room Boys took over several nights. Peter Marnel, the professional cook, brought his formula of making spaghetti and meat balls, while Francis Genotte and Fordyce were considering taking over a grill to feed the Stove Mounter's family, while his other co-worker, the new reported and score keeper of the Florence team, and panatella smoker, O'Connell, made notes of the happenings so the boys of 32 could learn something about the convention.

I will have to say the south was well represented and involved many

debates on what to do and how to move in the interests of their locals, especially Tennessee locals. It was very nice to have such a good representation. As it happened, two delegates went bird hunting without a gun, "Dickey Bird and Walczek Bird." They walked from the Kellogg sanctuary seven miles into Battle Creek, seeking some extinct bird as I would have it known to me, as transportation even by thumb route was not recognized. The climax came when Joe pushed Dickey in a wheelbarrow five miles over cobble stones and Joe got in and the rig broke down so Joe finished last, but won the walk as he completed the milage and disqualified Dickey. No bird was found by these two scientists.

We must keep in mind those that have recently become affiliated with us and the attention they gave to the convention showed us they were sincere and wanted to know our way of organization. Let us make some observations. Local No. 105 delegates, Reynolds and the old sticker, Ed Worman, when he joins something that's "that". He would make a good cemeterer of marriages. The way he glues things together. Well, Ed Worman tells me that Reynolds, after eight hours at the Norge plant, puts wheels on something that missed in a local hospital. What is it Ed? "Buggies!" Now we go to our new local. It is in its second year's contract. Bro. Ruwe, representing that local, was very attentive. Mr. Travers and son are very fine gentlemen and insisted that Local No. 108 have a delegate in Kalamazoo. We commend such employers, and not to go amiss in saying further, that one of our newest Locals, No. 133, could not be represented with a delegate due to circumstances prevailing at that time. We shall not overlook the fact that the president of the Ideal Cooler Co. is another man of high caliber, Mr. Weiss, who has given much thought to his employees and good labor-management prevails. His attorney, Mr. Gallup, has been his adviser in his labor problems, and from the writer's judgment of men, they want the most pleasant relationship and to give the best cooperation at all times, in other words, a contented worker gives quality in workmanship and the product sells at all times.

We commend these men and all others who have found this medium of getting peaceful relationship in their plants.

Our own Morris Sheeks of Local No. 126, is an old reliable. He stands for an honest set-up and democratic principles, and as Lincoln once stated, quote: This country with its institutions belongs to the people who inhabit it. End of quote. Now it seems that it belongs to the Senate and the Congress, no matter what the majority may tell them, "for the people, by the people" does not mean anything to them. Well, we shall see. As we can think and speak openly, we still have that freedom of speech. Well, we can make some further observations, while trying to gather in the topics of the convention, we are so absorbent of the new labor laws we cannot detect it from our minds. The very thought of class legislation is enough to bring the subject up in one's mind continually.

Well, Bros. Ite and Gordon of No. 36 and O'Brien and Taylor and Johnson of No. 16. Sorry I cannot mention Local 120 being represented, but out in Newark, Ohio, there hangs a tail. Some of the best hunters come from there. Well, the old snipe hunting story still stands, while the coons still are chased by Taylor's dogs; and while I am deliberating on the hunting subject, Sam Crans of Nashville, Tenn., also Bro. Ellis go in for hunting fox, but I do not know if Ellis has any good dogs. I know that Sam has. The writer is now requesting the name to propose to the fox hunters, a party who can blow the trumpet or bugle to call the chase. I must not overlook one thing. Trevor Adams, Eugene Mueller and No. 60 gang along with the Post Hole Inventor. The trip to the Mose, Eagles and Vets headquarters while the gang imbibed in the amber fluid, two distinguished principles took over and proceeded to go places for themselves. Of course Old Pop had been subject to some humiliation, but as he always manages to hold his own on such matters, he agreed that a grave injustice had been done to those honorable delegates, but as was later deemed a very unmanly act by tearing down the virtuous couch of our president while he was away from his reservation and

disposing of all the things by ejecting them into the hallway. This in turn was an unforgiveable act on their part. Besides consuming the barley, corn and diluting it with water at 60c a quart, ice cubes cost 3c each, now you have a pretty clear picture of the highlights of the convention from within the session and outside of same, buy the way war bond. By the way Schlosser is giving a party. Nothing in the ice box but his head, quote Ehrhard.

THE EDITOR.

**STOVE MOUNTERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF N.A.**

Summary July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947

Expenses

	Totals
Salaries .....	\$ 33,270.00
Hotel .....	14,126.33
Transportation .....	22,690.09
Postage .....	982.89
Tel. and Tele. ....	2,639.41
Supplies .....	9,494.07
Journals .....	2,613.79
Death Benefits .....	19,876.92
Strike Benefits .....	1,000.00
Per Capita Tax .....	4,099.96
*Miscellaneous .....	26,924.77
 Total.....	 \$127,618.23

\*This item includes Withholding Taxes, Social Security, Organizing Hall Rents, Rent, Refunds, Attorney Fees, Retainer Fee, Court Costs, Bonds, Bonds Local Secretaries and Etc.

Receipts from Dues, Reinstatement fees, Initiation fees, Supplies to locals, assessment for maintaining armed service men's burial expenses (see constitution).

Total Receipts—July 1, 1946  
to June 30, 1947.....\$128,949.86  
Previous Balance — July 1,  
1946 .....

..... 47,863.53  
  
Expenses Total — July 1, \$176,813.39  
1946 to June 30, 1947.... 127,618.23  
Total Balance — June 30,  
1947 .....

\$ 49,195.16  
  
We do not contribute to any political groups or campaigns.

Edw. W. Kaiser,  
Sec.-Treas.

**IN MEMORIAM**

A good Union man passes on. Local 33 regrets to report the death of Bro. John I. Williams at the age of 72 years. Brother Williams passed away July 22, 1947, at his home in Bridgeport, Ala., and was buried in City Cemetery at Bridgeport on July 24, 1947. Brother Williams carried a Moulders card and worked at the trade many years. After becoming unable to work as a Moulder he joined the Mounters' Union in 1944 and took a light job and worked as long as he was able. Everyone that knew John Williams, knew he was a good Union man and a friendly, agreeable shop mate. Members of Local 33 extend to the bereaved family of Brother Williams our deepest sympathy in this saddest hour and hope for them the comforting help from the One who knows best in all things.

Stove Mounters' Union,  
Local No. 33

**IN MEMORIAM**

Whereas it has pleased our Almighty Father to remove from our midst our beloved Brother and fellow-worker JOHN WEBSTER BRUNSON.

Therefore be it resolved that we the Members of Local No. 64 of Stove Mounters' International Union extend to the bereaved family our sincere condolence on the sad occasion and that our minutes carry our word of sympathy and that our charter be draped for a period of thirty days as a tribute of respects to the memory of the deceased.

Henry W. Geshwilm  
Rec. Secy.

## In Memoriam

### Local No.

- 3. Quincy, Illinois—  
Charles Watt, Card No. 15251
- 18. Buffalo, N. Y.—  
Charles K. Berlinghoff, Card No. 505
- 25. Cincinnati, Ohio—  
John P. Martin, Card No. 4321
- 34. St. Louis, Mo.—  
Helen Freeman, Card No. 43073
- 37. Chattanooga, Tenn.—  
T. A. Wilson, Card No. 20629
- 40. Taunton, Mass.—  
Jule E. Silvia, Card No. 13752  
Emanuel G. Thomas, Card, No. 44212  
John Mroeka, Card No. 13637
- 57. Kokomo, Ind.—  
Rufus Ford, Card No. 27871  
Chas. Schild, Card No. 669
- 54. Los Angeles, Calif.—  
A. V. Hansz, Card No. 23823
- 73. Anderson, Ind.—  
John Straub, Card No. 33906
- 67. Albion, Michigan—  
Robert Newell, Card No. 22363
- 87. Dickson City, Pa.—  
Martin Judge, Card No. 14980
- 90. Battle Creek, Mich.—  
James D. Eccles, Card No. 19395
- 79. Battle Creek, Mich.—  
Milburn Rawson, Card No. 11943
- 64. Columbus, Ohio—  
John Brunson, Card No. 5265
- 40. Taunton, Mass.—  
Jean B. Pelletier, Card No. 54253
- 91. Kalamazoo, Mich.—  
Tom Conkright, Card No. 15554
- 87. Dickson City, Pa.—  
John Mulhern, Card No. 15208

## STOVE MOUNTERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION



Attached to oven bottom of Cook Stoves and Ranges, and to ashpit of Base Burners and Heaters.

Indicates that this product was made by Union Labor.  
In use by the following firms:

A-B Stove Co., Battle Creek, Mich.  
Allen Mfg. Co., Nashville, Tenn.  
American Mfg. Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Anderson Stove Co., Anderson, Ind.  
Andes Stove & Furnace Corp., Geneva, N. Y.  
Atlas Enamel Co., St. Louis, Mo.  
Auto Stove Co., East St. Louis, Ill.  
Cavalier Range Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Chattanooga Enameling & Stamping Co.,  
Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Comstock Castle Co., Quincy, Ill.  
Eagle Fdy. Co., Belleville, Ill.  
Eagle Stove Works, Rome, Ga.  
Early Foundry Co., Dickson City, Pa.  
Economy Enamel Co., Quincy, Ill.  
Empire Stove Co., Belleville, Ill.  
Enterprise Stove Co., Belleville, Ill.  
Excelsior Stove Co., Quincy, Ill.  
Florence Stove Co., Kankakee, Ill.  
Fraser Furnace Co., Stockton, Calif.  
Globe-American Stove Co., Kokomo, Ind.  
Hammer-Bray Co., Oakland, Calif.  
Indianapolis Stove Co., Indianapolis, Ind.  
General Wesco Stove Co., Springfield, Mo.  
James Graham Mfg. Co., Newark, Calif.  
Charter Oak Stove Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Hussmann-Ligonier, St. Louis, Mo.  
Karr Range Co., Belleville, Ill.  
Loneragan Stove Co., Albion, Mich.  
F. S. Lang Mfg. Co., Seattle, Wash.  
Majestic Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Mo.  
Newark Stove Co., Newark, Ohio  
Oakland Fdy. Co., Belleville, Ill.  
Occidental Stove Co., Irvington, Calif.  
Orbon Stove Co., Belleville, Ill.  
Pacific Stove Co., Seattle, Wash.  
Pittston Stove Co., Pittston, Pa.  
Quincy Stove Co., Quincy, Ill.  
Renown Stove Co., Owosso, Mich.  
Samuels Enameling & Stamping Co., Chat-  
anooga, Tenn.  
Standard Gas Equipment Corp., Baltimore,  
Md.  
Tennessee Enamel Co., Nashville, Tenn.  
Thermadore Electrical Mfg. Co., Los Angeles,  
Calif.  
U. S. Porcelain Enamel Co., Los Angeles,  
Calif.  
Washington Stove Works, Everett, Wash.  
Wolf Stove Co., Los Angeles, Calif.  
Western Stove Co., Culver City, Calif.  
Wesix Heater Co., San Francisco, Calif.

## PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

(Effective January 1, 1945)

Loose Leaf Binder.....	\$ 5.00
Binder Sheets, per set.....	4.00
Ledger Guide.....	.55
100-page Day Book.....	1.75
Secretary's Order Book.....	.90
Treasurer's Receipt Book.....	.50
Roll Call Book.....	1.25
Treasurer's Act. Book.....	1.25
Minute Book.....	1.25
Honorary Cards, per 100.....	1.00
Traveling Cards, per 100.....	1.00
Letterheads, per 100.....	.95
Envelopes, per 100.....	.90
Envelopes (large size), per 100.....	1.00
Plain brown clasp envelopes, per 100.....	2.00
Statistician Blanks, per 500.....	1.75
Dues Blanks, per 100.....	.59
Due Books, each.....	.20
Pad.....	.35
Dater.....	.60
Holder.....	.65
Dater, Pad and Holder, complete.....	1.55
Due Book and Membership Card Holder (with emblem).....	.40
Lapel Pin, Ladies'.....	.55
Lapel Button, Men's.....	.50
Fine Stamps, per 100.....	.20
Shop Steward Badge.....	.30
Shop Committee Badge.....	.30
Membership Due Cards, per 100.....	.50
Grievance Procedure Slips, per block.....	.70
Application Blanks.....	Free

The above supplies will be sent to Local Unions, prepaid. Remittances should accompany all orders.

Please remit by bank draft, postoffice or express money order. Do not send personal check.

## Official Lapel Button

Let the people know you are a Union man, and what Union you belong to. Wear this button.



Blue and White Enamel Gold  
Rimmed Button. Order through  
you Local's Secretary.

Ladies' Lapel Pin..... 75c  
Men's Lapel Button..... 95c

# Reports of Local Unions

To Insure Publication Reports Should Be In by the 10th of Each Month

Abbreviations designating class of cards: **T**—Traveling; **B. H.**—Beneficiary Honorary;  
**H**—Honorary; **F**—Furnace; **E**—Enamel.

**No. 1, DETROIT, MICH.**

Meets third Friday of the month at members' homes.  
 Financial Secretary—Frank Stanco, 14515 Linnhurst Ave., Detroit 5, Mich.  
 Trade—No report. White Star-Jewel.

**No. 3, QUINCY, ILL.**

Meets third Friday of month, Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Alva Vandament, 636 Ohio St.  
 Financial Secretary—Chas. Spilker, 705 South Thirteenth St.  
 Shops—Quincy Stove Co., Trade Name, Monogram; Comstock-Castle Stove Co., Trade Name, Economy; Excelsior Stove Co., Trade Name, National. Gem City Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 4, BELLEVILLE, ILL.**

Meets second and fourth Wednesday of month, Eagles Home.  
 Recording Secretary—Arthur Hale, 108 S. 18th St.  
 Financial Secretary—Peter Hemmer, 216 South Virginia Ave.  
 Shops—Oakland Foundry Co., Trade Name, Oakland; Orbon Stove Co., Trade Name, Orbon; Belleville Stove Co., Trade Name, St. Clair; Eagle Stove Co., Trade Name, Eagle; Karr Stove Co., Trade Name, Karr; Original Stove Co., Trade Name, Original; Bridge-Beach Manufacturing Co., Trade Name, Superior; Empire Stove Co., Trade Name, Empire; Harmony Foundry Co., Trade Name, Harmony; Egyptian Foundry Co., Trade Name, Egyptian; Roesch Enamel Range Co., Trade Name, Roesch; Loyal Knight Stoker Co., Trade Name, Loyal Knight; Peerless Enamel Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 5, ALBION, MICH.**

Meets second and fourth Wednesday of the month at Labor Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Iva Yarger, 3750 Jackson Road.  
 Financial Secretary—Estta E. Stancroff, 811 Barnes St.  
 Shop—Lonergan, Trade Name, Fireside.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 6, PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

Meets second Thursday at members' homes.  
 Recording Secretary—Chas. G. Riotti, 2938 D. St. (34)  
 Financial Secretary—Chas. Heison, 752 East Willard St. (34)  
 Trade—Fair.  
 Trade—No shops organized.

**No. 7, QUINCY, ILL.**

Meets first and third Monday at Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Ruth A. Spilker, 632 Adams St.  
 Financial Secretary—Reba Taylor, 1217 Hampshire.  
 Shops—Mit-Shel Stamping Co., Trade Name, "Up-to-Date"; Brower Mfg. Co., Trade Name, "Sav-All"; H. H. Sheer Co., Trade Name, "Sol-Hot."  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 8, HAMILTON, OHIO**

Meets when necessary. Trades Council Hall, South Second St.  
 Recording and Financial Secretary—Otis Hart, 110 N. Second St.  
 Shop—Estate Stove Co., Trade Name, Estate.  
 Trade—All men in Estate joined Molders' Union. Estate.

**No. 9, QUINCY, ILL—(E)**

Meets third Thursday of month, Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Miss Geraldine Campbell, 829 Spring St.  
 Financial Secretary—Jess Eales, 1028 Madison St.  
 Shop—Quincy Stove & Mfg. Co., Comstock Castle Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 11, ST. LOUIS, MO.—(E)**

Meets first Monday of month at Polish American Hall, 1938 Cass Ave.  
 Recording Secretary—George Stiffler, 2224 Bremen.  
 Financial Secretary—Chas. Buell, 1805 S. Spring.  
 Shop—Atlas Enameling Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 13, GADSDEN, ALA.**

Meets second and fourth Thursday night at Gadsden Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Willie Mae Clark, R. R. No. 4.  
 Financial Secretary—G. A. Cark, 208 S. 14th St.  
 Shop—Agricola Furnace Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 14, LEWISBURG, TENN.**

Meets first and third Monday night at Macabee Hall.  
 Financial Secretary—  
 Recording Secretary—Albert Balanger, c/o Marshall Stove Co.  
 Shop—Marshall Stove Co.  
 Trade—Poor.

**No. 16, NEWARK, OHIO**

Meets second and fourth Friday of month, at Newark Fed. of Labor Hall.  
 Financial and Recording Secretary—Raymond O'Brien, 843 Fairbanks Ave.  
 Shop—Newark Stove Co., Trade Name Kenmroe.  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 17, GADSDEN, ALA.**

Meets fourth Wednesday of month, Gadsden Labor Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—W. D. Bowling, 31 Lookout Ave., Alabama City, Ala.  
 Financial Secretary—D. T. Simpson, Slusser Ave.  
 Shop—A. & J. Stove Co., Agricola Furnace Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 18, BUFFALO, N. Y.**

Meets first Friday of the month at Daniel W. Manke home, 164 Springer Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Daniel W. Manke, 164 Springer Ave. (11)  
 Trade—Jewett Stove Co. moved out.

**No. 19, PITTSBURGH, PA.**

Meets fourth Friday at members' homes.  
 Financial Secretary—Chas. P. Kress, 407 Stanton Ave., Millvale, Pa.  
 Trade—Stove and Range not making stoves.

**No. 20, LOUISVILLE, KY.**

Meets fourth Wednesday of the month at Truck Drivers Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Mary Dodge, 2644 Alford Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Charles J. Cromwell, 1600 State St., New Albany, Ind.  
 Shop—Louisville Tin & Stove Co., Trade Name, Progress.  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 21, LOUISVILLE, KY.**

Meets second Wednesday of the month at Truck Drivers Union Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Dorothy Saeder, 2021 West Burnett Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Lucille Lewis, 1221 W. Hill St.  
 Shop—Enamel, Metal and Ordnance, Porcelain Metals Corp.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 22, ATLANTA, GA.**

Meets third Monday at 11 Krog St., NE.  
 Secretary—Fred W. Harris, 63 Krog St. N.E.  
 Shop—Atlanta Stove Works.  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 23, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.**

Meets second Tuesday of the month at Odd Fellows Hall, North Chattanooga, Tenn.  
 Recording Secretary—Ruby Carter, 938 E. Elmwood Drive, Woodland Hts.  
 Financial Secretary—Mrs. Nina Summers, Route No. 2, Whitwell, Tenn.  
 Shop—Chattanooga Stamping and Enameling Co.  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 24, EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.**

Meets first Thursday of month at Steamfitters Hall, 5th and St. Louis Ave.  
 Recording Secretary—Tom Mischke, 1749 State St.  
 Financial Secretary—Bob Dill, Waterloo, Ill.  
 Shop—Locke Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 25, CINCINNATI, OHIO**

Meets third Friday of month at members' homes.  
 Financial Secretary—George B. Mattscheck, 4344 Vine St., St. Bernard 17, Ohio.  
 Shop—Goodwill.  
 Trade—Poor.

**No. 27, DAYTON, OHIO**

Meets second Tuesday of the month at members' homes.  
 Financial Secretary—C. E. Nill, 529 Jackson St. (10)  
 Trade—Not making stoves.

**No. 28, DOVER, N. J.**

Meets second Thursday of the month at Odd Fellows' Hall.  
 Financial Secretary—Carl Sundquist, 142 Princeton Ave.  
 Trade—No report.

**No. 30, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.**

Meets first and third Tuesday of month at Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Willard V. Eaker, 2604 E. 16th St. (4)  
 Financial Secretary—J. F. Smith, 1720 E. 27th St. (4)  
 Shop—Cavalier Corp.  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 31, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.**

Meets second and fourth Thursdays of each month at Fraizer Lodge Hall.  
 Financial and Recording Secretary—W. H. Benefeld, 513 Bell Ave. (5)  
 Shop—Samuels Stamping & Eng. Co.  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 32, KANKAKEE, ILL.**

Meets first Wednesday of month at St. Joseph Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Earl Fromm, 565 S. 3rd Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Joseph Siawrys, 354 S. May Ave.  
 Shop—Florence Stove Co.  
 Trade—Fair.

**No. 33, SOUTH PITTSBURG, TENN.**

Meets second Monday at Redman Hall, Cedar St., at 4 p. m.  
 Recording Secretary—J. K. Looney.  
 Financial Secretary—J. R. Womack.  
 Shop—U. S. Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 34, ST. LOUIS, MO.**

Meets second Friday of every month at Schwaben Hall, 3514 S. Jefferson Ave.  
 Recording Secretary—Charles Carper, 4944 St. Louis Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Eugene Ehrhard, 4066 Taft Ave.  
 Shop—Majestic Manufacturing Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 36, SHELBYVILLE, IND.**

Meets first and third Wednesdays at 31½ Public Square, A. F. of L. Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Sydney Smith, 723 3rd St.  
 Financial Secretary—Leon C. Stone, 473 W. Mechanic St.  
 Shop—Chambers Corp.  
 Trade—Reconversion.

**No. 37, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.**

Meets first Friday, Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Louise Braswell, 919½ Magnolia.  
 Financial Secretary—Fred Boyd, 4103 15th Ave.  
 Shop—American Mfg. Co.  
 Trade—Fair.

## No. 38, PEORIA, ILL.

Meets third Friday at 3124 N. Madison St.  
 Financial Secretary—Arnold Simon, 3124 N. Madison St.  
 Trade—No report.

## No. 39, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Meets when called.  
 Financial Secretary—Aug. E. Moelk, 366 Campbell St. (11), rear.  
 Trade—Both Sills and Gallusha shops liquidated. Trade Name, Sterling.

## No. 40, TAUNTON, MASS.

Meets fourth Tuesday of the month at Eagles Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Joseph Elias, 98 East Water St.  
 Financial Secretary—Roderick McPherson, 42 Ingell St.  
 Shop—Glenwood Range Co., Trade Name, Glenwood.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 43, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Meets every fourth Friday each month, 8 p. m. at Machinists Hall, 249½ S. Delaware St.  
 Recording and Financial Secretary—Warren Rimmer, 228 N. Randolph.  
 Shop—Indianapolis Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 45, PITTSSTON, PA.

Meets last Thursday of month at members' homes.  
 Recording Secretary—Joseph Berulus.  
 Financial Secretary—Roy Thompson, 33 Carroll St.  
 Shop—Pittston Stove Co., Trade Name, "Happy Thought."  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 47, O'FALLON, ILL.

Meets fourth Tuesday of month at City Hall, North Lincoln St.  
 Recording Secretary—Henry Bauer, 317 West Dee St., Lebanon, Ill.  
 Financial Secretary—Harry Hillen, 214 West Fourth St.  
 Shop—Eureka Steel Products Co.  
 Trade—Down.

## No. 48, BRIDGEPORT, ALA.

Meets each Tuesday night at members' homes.  
 Financial Secretary—John W. Brown.  
 Shop—Jacobs Mfg. Co.  
 Trade—Fair.

## No. 49, KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Merged with Local No. 74.

## No. 50, BALTIMORE, MD.

Meets first Friday of the month at Lithuanian Hall, Hollins and Parkin Sts.  
 Recording Secretary—Mrs. Ellen Weston, 2310 Sidney Ave. (30)  
 Financial Secretary—Cecil E. Litten, 1806 Winans Ave., Halethorpe 27, Baltimore, Md.  
 Shop—Standard Gas and Equipment Co.  
 Trade Names—Oriel, Vulcan Acorn, Smoothie Top, Kitchen Queen, Happy Cooking, Heavy Duty and Hotel Equipment.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 51, NEWARK, N. J.

Meets when necessary at home of Financial Secretary.  
 Financial Secretary—Frank Gilbert, 107 Washington St., Irvington, N. J. (11)  
 Shop—Thatcher Furnace Co.  
 Trade—Garwood shop employed a few men.

## No. 52, EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.

Meets fourth Friday of the month at Polish Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—William Davis, 1412 N. 13th St.  
 Financial Secretary—Emil Simon, Rt. No. 2, Belleville, Ill.  
 Shop—Auto Stove Co. No. 2, Trade Name, Autocrat.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 53, NASHVILLE, TENN.

Meets first and third Tuesday nights at 7 p. m., and following Wednesday morning after each Tuesday meeting at 12:30 p. m., at 4900 Charlotte.  
 Recording Secretary—Mrs. Mary Saddler, Route No. 2, River Road.  
 Financial Secretary—James Ellis, 4409 Park Ave.  
 Firm—Tennessee Enamel Mfg. Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 54, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Meets second Tuesday of month at Moose Hall, Maywood, Calif.  
 Recording Secretary—Edna Maxson, 4562 52nd Drive, Maywood, Calif.  
 Financial Secretary—Mrs. Tamar Miller, 2764 Walnut St., Huntington Park, Calif.  
 Shop—Thermador Electrical Mfg. Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 55, LOUISVILLE, KY.

Meets first Wednesday of month at Truck Drivers Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Henry Legler, 2811 Slivin St.  
 Financial Secretary—Hartie Spencer, 2121 West Lee St.  
 Shop—Shannon Bed Spring Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 56, SOUTH PITTSBURG, TENN.

Meets first Monday at Iron Moulder's Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Leslie Lee, 712 Elm St.  
 Financial Secretary—Frank Link, 302 Oak Ave.  
 Shop—U. S. Stove Co.  
 Trade—Slow.

## No. 57, KOKOMO, IND.

Meets second and fourth Wednesday at Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Jas. Johnston, 1103 W. North St.  
 Financial Secretary—Edmund A. Budd, 1021 East Markland Ave.  
 Shop—Globe American Stove Co., Trade Name—Maytag.  
 Trade—Fair.

## No. 58, ROME, GA.

Meets second Monday of month at homes.  
 Recording Secretary—  
 Financial Secretary—Eugene Nolan, 316 Forsyth St.  
 Shop—Eagle Stove Works.  
 Trade—Fair.

## No. 60, BELLEVILLE, ILL.—(E)

Meets second and fourth Thursday night at Eagles' Home.  
 Recording Secretary—Albert Kain, 26 N. 18th St.  
 Financial Secretary—Herman Loaf, 317 N. 4th St.  
 Shops—Roesch Enamel Co., Peerless Enamel Co., Karr Enamel Co., St. Clair Works.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 61, NEWARK, CALIF.

Meets second and fourth Fridays of the month at Newark Pavilion  
 Recording Secretary—Joseph L. Dias, P. O. Box 165.  
 Financial Secretary—John A. Furtado, P. O. Box 95, Irvington, Calif.  
 Shops—James Graham Manufacturing Co., Trade Name, Wedgewood.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 62, IRVINGTON, CALIF.

Meets when called.  
 Financial and Recording Secretary—Geo. Smith, Box 75, Newark, Calif.  
 Shop—Occidental Stove Co., Trade Name, Occidental.  
 Trade—Down.

## No. 64, COLUMBUS, OHIO

Meets fourth Friday at 531 S. High.  
 Recording Secretary—Henry W. Geshwilm, 306½ E. Beck St.  
 Financial Secretary—James M. Roberts, 492 Catherine St. (4)  
 Shop—C. Emrich Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 65, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Meets third Friday of month at Redman's Hall, 16th and Mission Sts.  
 Recording Secretary—John D. Roberts, 38 Athens St.  
 Financial Secretary—Edw. J. O'Rielly, 3235 Gough St.  
 Shops—Wesix Heater; Pacific Gas Heating Co., Trade Name, Mars Furnace; Ray Oil Burner.  
 Trade—Fair.

## No. 67, ALBION, MICH.

Meets first and third Wednesday, Union Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—George Bechstein, 807 Burr Oak St.  
 Financial Secretary—Stanley Porter, Route No. 3.  
 Shop—Union Steel Products.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 68, CULVER CITY, CALIF.

Meets first Sunday of each month at Culver City, City Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Clyde H. Medlin 10732 Lawler St., Los Angeles, Calif.  
 Financial Secretary—M. H. Evans, 1433 S. Shenandoah St., Los Angeles 35, Calif.  
 Shop—Western Stove Co., Trade Names, Western Holly & Western Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 70, CINCINNATI, OHIO

Meets second Friday of month at members' homes.  
 Recording Secretary—Charles J. Busse, 1241 Elberon Ave., Price Hill. (5)  
 Financial Secretary—Michael Eppler, 1799 Esmonde St. (14)  
 Shop—Miller Range Co.  
 Trade—Slow.

## No. 71, EVERETT, WASH.

Meets—Second Wednesday of month at Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Helge Wannquist, 2715 Rainier Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Neal A. Roholt, 706 2nd St., Snohomish, Wash.  
 Shop—Washington Stove Works.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 73, ANDERSON, IND.

Meets first Thursday of month at Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Doyle L. Newton, 110 Vineyard St.  
 Financial Secretary—Theo. L. Shaul, 1933½ Broadway, Apt. 2.  
 Shop—Anderson Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 74, KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Meets second and fourth Wednesday at Hungarian Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—C. N. Bowman, 1316 James St.  
 Financial Secretary—H. N. Bowman, 1103 Clinton Ave. (30)  
 Shop—Kalamazoo Stove Co., Trade Name, Kalamazoo Direct to You.  
 Trade—Reconversion.

## No. 75, NASHVILLE, TENN.

Meets first and third Thursdays at Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—W. M. Caldwell, 2706 Delaware.  
 Financial Secretary—J. R. Sullivan, 3718 Park Ave. (9)  
 Shop—Gray-Dudley Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 76, OWOSSO, MICH.

Meets third Friday of month at Eagles Home, 300 N. Washington.  
 Recording Secretary—Theodore Rubleman, 1531 W. Main St.  
 Financial Secretary—Clinton W. Finley, 419 W. Main St.  
 Shop—Renown Stove Co., Trade Name, Renown.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 79, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Meets first Friday of month at Odd Fellows Hall.  
 Recording and Financial Secretary—C. J. Beaudoin, 291 W. Burnham St.  
 Shop—A.-B. Stove Co., Trade Name, Aristocrat.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 80, NASHVILLE, TENN.

Meets first and third Friday night at Labor Temple.  
 Recording Secretary—Thelma Kellser.  
 Financial Secretary—W. H. Martin, 110 Rose Street.  
 Shop—Allen Mfg. Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 83, OAKLAND, CALIF.

Meets first Friday of month at W. O. W., 3256 E. 14th St.  
 Recording Secretary—G. A. Parson.  
 Financial Secretary—Manuel Tellis, 1223 71st Ave.  
 Shop—Ferro Enamel Co., and Payne M-  
 honey.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 86, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Meets first Friday of month at Smith's Hall, Broadway and Destrehan.  
 Recording Secretary—Chas. H. Dietz, 1424 Dolman St. (4)  
 Financial Secretary—August Swanland, 4467a Clarence Avne. (15).  
 Shop—Charter Oak Stove Co., purchased by Reynolds Metal Corp.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 87, DICKSON CITY, PA.

Meets first Tuesday of month at Rutowski Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Matthew Matistic, 400 Bowman St.  
 Financial Secretary—Henry Lapinsky, 516 River St.  
 Shops—Early Stove Co.; Early Enamel Shop.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 88, MAYWOOD, CALIF.

Meets second Tuesday each month, at Santa Fe and Gage.  
 Recording Secretary—Ellen Corty, 4433 East Slauson Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Wm. Hinzpeter, 5010 East 59th Place.  
 Shop—U. S. Porcelain Enamel Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 90, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Meets first Friday at Odd Fellows' Hall.  
 Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary—Joseph Galarda, 27 Shepard St.  
 Trade Name—Aristocrat.  
 Shop—A. B. Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 91, KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Meets first Thursday of month at Hungarian Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Cornelius Terpstra, 1008 Clinton Ave. (30)  
 Financial Secretary—Ernest L. Moughton, 215 W. Washington, Vicksburg, Mich.  
 Shop—Ruud Mfg. Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 94, SPRINGFIELD, MO.

Meets third Tuesday, Pythian Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—J. A. Wilfret, 912 East Division St.  
 Financial Secretary—Kyle Langford, Ash Grove, Mo.  
 Shop—General Wesco Stove Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 95, REHOBOTH, MASS.

Meets first Monday at U.A.V. Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Caesar Nunes, 2 Sonny-side Ave., Taunton, Mass.  
 Financial Secretary—Walter Ashley, Elm St., Berkley, Mass.  
 Shop—Rehoboth Porcelain Enamel Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 96, ST. LOUIS, MO. (R. &amp; E.)

Meets second and fourth Fridays of month at Big Club Hall, Marconi and Shaw.  
 Recording Secretary—Chas. H. Hamann, 4663 Maffitt Ave. (13)  
 Financial Secretary—Eugene Hagen, 5537 Holly Hills. (9)  
 Shop—Quick Meal Stove Co., Trade Name, Magic Chef.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 98, GENEVA, N. Y.

Meets second Monday at V.F.W. Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Keith W. Morehouse, 82 Essex St.  
 Financial Secretary—Harold Gaylord, 27 Dorchester Ave.  
 Shop—Andes Range and Furnace Corp.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 99, RED BUD, ILL.

Meets first Friday of month.  
 Recording Secretary—Dorothy Buch, Route No. 2.  
 Financial Secretary—Erwin Erdmann, R. R. No. 2.  
 Shop—American Furnace Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 100, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Meets third Friday at room 300 Carpenters Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—August Gayer, 4222 Edgewood Ave., Normandy (20), Mo.  
 Financial Secretary—Al. Barnes, 7124 Dawson Ave. (20)  
 Shop—Jackes and Evans Mfg. Co.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 103, DALLAS, TEXAS

Meets first Friday of month at Labor Temple.  
 Financial Secretary—Irene Woosley, Rt. No. 1, Box 277, Irving, Texas.  
 Recording Secretary—C. O. Morris.  
 Shop—McMath & Axelrod.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 105, EFFINGHAM, ILL.

Meets first and third Tuesdays of month at Woodman Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Jack Dowling, North Third St., Effingham, Ill.  
 Financial Secretary—Edward Worman, 500 N. Willow St.  
 Shop—Norge Plant.  
 Trade—Good.

## No. 106, LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Meets first Friday of month at plant, 2116 East Olympic St.  
 Recording Secretary—Floyd J. Normand, 330 S. Arizona Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Charles Gorwitch, 2064 Hollenbeck Ave.  
 Shop—Wolf Stove Co.

## No. 107, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Meets third Wednesday of month at V.F.W. Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Fred Velton, 10597 Clarendon Ave., Overland (14), Mo.  
 Financial Secretary—Nelson Klein, 1907 Desrehan St.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 108, ST. LOUIS, MO.**

Meets first Monday of each month at Saenger Hall, 4225 Chouteau Ave.  
 Recording Secretary—Ernest Blome, 3753a Gravois Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Gilbert Ruwe, 4453a Oakland Ave.  
 Shop—Multiplex Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 109, OAKLAND, CALIF.**

Meets third Friday of month at 1450 47th Ave.  
 Recording Secretary—A. O. Nunes, 2926 E. 19th St.  
 Financial Secretary—H. M. McJunkin, 92 Eighth St., Apt. 8.  
 Shop—Hammer Bray Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 110, ST. LOUIS, MO.**

Meets first Saturday of month at Polish-American Hall, 1938 Cass Ave.  
 Recording Secretary—Paul Glaab, 1206a Russell Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Ruby White, 8425a Reilly St.  
 Shop—Hussmann-Ligonier.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 111, ROME, GA.**

Meets second Friday night at Labor Hall.  
 Financial Secretary—G. D. Wiseman, Route No. 2, Box 460.  
 Recording Secretary—G. W. Goddard, 4 Wadsworth St.  
 Shop—Standard Range Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 113, FREEBURG, ILL.**

Meets third Wednesdays at Village Hall.  
 Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary—J. C. Reuter, Box 104.  
 Shop—E. M. Wiegmann & Co., Inc.  
 Trade—Slow.

**No. 115, RICHMOND, VA.**

Meets third Wednesday of month at 1120 N. 25th St.  
 Recording and Financial Secretary—Robert S. Whitlow, R. F. D. No. 5, Box 165.  
 Shop—Cameron Stove Co., Southern Stove Works, Inc.  
 Trade—Good.

**NOTICE TO MEMBERS**

We now have available to members, a due book and membership card case with our emblem on it. The cost of same is 40c per case. Order through your local secretary.

**Attention Secretaries of All Local Unions**

Due to the laxity of some of the Local Secretaries not sending in their monthly reports at the end of each month completely filled out including the total number of membership, we will be compelled to enforce Article XIII, Section 1, of our Constitution.

**No. 120, NEWARK, OHIO**

Meets second and fourth Wednesday of month at Labor Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Wendell Stock, 150 S. 6th St.  
 Financial Secretary—Weldon Dudley, 293 West Church St.  
 Shop—Newark Stove Company.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 123, MAYWOOD, CALIF.**

Meets first Monday of month at Moose Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—Sheridan Michel, 5620 Everett Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—John H. Schureman, 2124 Cambridge Ave., Los Angeles 6, Calif.  
 Shop—Gaffer & Sattler.  
 Trade—Slow.

**No. 124, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.**

Meets fourth Wednesday of each month.  
 Recording and Financial Secretary—John de Hart, 318 N. Allassandro Ave., Temple City, Caif.  
 Shop—Pioneer Electric Co., Trade Name, O'Keefe & Merritt.

**No. 126, ST. LOUIS, MO.**

Meets last Thursday of each month, Carpenters' Hall.  
 Recording Secretary—James O'Rourke, 5948 Schulte Ave.  
 Financial Secretary—Mary Ellis, 3968 Lafayette Ave.  
 Shop—Wrought Iron Range Co.  
 Trade—Good.

**No. 127, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.**

Meets each month, members' homes.  
 Financial Secretary—Vernon Hohn, 2330 Greenwood, Ave.  
 Recording Secretary—Wm. D. Monroe, 1206 Lillian Ave.

**No. 132, ST. LOUIS, MO.****No. 133, ST. LOUIS, MO.**

Meets each month, members' homes.  
 Financial Secretary—Thomas Fitzgibbons, 1448 Dodier St.  
 Recording Secretary—Henry Seller, 3426 St. Joachim, Overland, Mo.

## THIRD QUARTER EDITION

## Northern District Council



The above photo is the presentation of the Grand Prize Award of the Northern District Council at the Twenty-seventh Convention. Secretary Ford is presenting the title of a 1947 Stylemaster Four Door Sedan to Felix T. Metoyer of Local No. 125, Los Angeles. Accompanied left to right Homer L. Banks, chairman of car display; Kenneth L. Ford, secretary; Felix T. Metoyer (winner); Ralph Geason, president of Locals 79 and 90; Joseph Galarda, president of the Northern District, and Allen Lorenze, buddy of Metoyer. Inset in the photo is the five months' old daughter in whose name Brother Metoyer placed just for luck. Cheryl Ann certainly brought a lot of luck to Daddy, and may her luck continue through life.

Other awards went to (A. B. Electric Stove) Ray Green, 3557 Caroline, St. Louis; (Ruud Water Heater) Francis J. Spinney, 120 Clark Street, Albion; (Kalamazoo Gas Stove) W. C. DeBase, 2611 W. Foquette, Baltimore, Md.; (Radio) Genevieve Smith, 248 Cliff Street, Battle Creek, Mich.; (Lonergan Oil Space Heater) Nelson Service, 415 N. 32nd Street, Battle Creek, Mich.

We of the Northern District endeavored to be good hosts to the delegates of the convention and we were commended by many. Were our efforts rewarded? "No." We lost a vice-president who has done a wonderful job of organization. In our opinion one of the smoothest running Districts in the organization. All his decisions were weighed well and his fairness and decisions were appreciated by all. Politics sometimes deal some harsh blows, but then the mill will never grind again with the waters that have passed. Brother Willard (Babe) Fogleson, we think you have done a wonderful job and we hope you all the success possible in your new field of endeavor.

## Women's Part in the Organization



Accompanied in the Article is a photo of Sister Esta Stancroff of Local No. 5, Albion, Michigan. She was overwhelmingly voted in as a delegate from the Northern District to go to St. Louis for the revision and compilation of the Constitution and By-Laws.

Sister Stancroff has had an active part on the Bargaining Committee of Local No. 5. We are confident that nothing will be overlooked on Resolutions and Amendments. Speaking of women, people do not realize the part they play in the field of Union activities. Being chairman of the Committee on Organization, the full committee were in earnest, recommending the formation of Women's Auxiliaries. Now, fellows, kinda have a chat with the Mrs. over the dinner table and see what she thinks about it. We know these days are trying on the family budget; let's get the ladies in an organization and let

them assist us in promoting the principles for which we are striving to maintain. Perhaps the most of you heard the Labor Day address of Wm. Green, president of the American Federation of Labor. One of his statements was to make election day a holiday. Now every one of you must make ready for this holiday. See that you and your wife and all members of your family are registered to vote and see to it that everyone makes that little trip to the polls and cast your ballot to defeat the supporters of Taft-Hartley Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947. They are endeavoring to make the way a hard one for Organized Labor. Organized Labor has run the gauntlet before and with cooperation from all we will be able to subdue the obstacles laid in our path. Your job is to sell your Union to your members, show them the good it has done and the good it will do.

This is probably the last issue of the Journal, the mouthpiece of our organization. We hated to see the resolution passed to discontinue this Journal which has been in existence ever since the early stages of the organization. From now on we will have a monthly paper, so we can see how it makes out and maybe at the next convention we can bring the old Stove Mounters Journal back into being.

Brother James Baker of Local No. 74 (Kalamazoo) has been appointed Special Representative for this District and we feel confident he will keep things rolling right along. The Northern District Council welcomes Kokomo as an affiliate and the District intends to endeavor to promote uniformity of contract and wages throughout the District. Watch us hum between now and the next convention. One parting word to the membership, each old and every new member is invited to actively participate in the affairs of our organization. With your cooperation we can expect to go on and on, gaining strength and prestige in the future as we have in the past.

#### DO YOU JUST BELONG

Are you an active member,  
The kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend our meetings,  
And mingle with the flock,  
Or do you stay at home  
And criticise and knock.

Do you take an active part  
To help the work along,  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind that "just belong"?

There's quite a program schedule  
That I'm sure you've heard about  
And we'll appreciate if you, too,  
Will come and help us out.

So come to the meetings often  
And help with hand and heart,  
Don't be just a member  
But take an active part.

Think this over, Brother,  
You know right from wrong.  
Are you an active member,  
Or do you just belong?

—Anonymous (Barry County Sportsman).

Kenneth L. Ford Secretary-Treasurer,

Northern District Council.

# PROCEEDINGS OFFICERS' REPORTS

*27th Convention*

— of —

**MASONIC TEMPLE**

**Kalamazoo, Michigan**

**July 15, 1947**

**OFFICIAL REPORT OF**

**'PRESIDENT JOSEPH LEWIS**

Convention time rolls around again for the Stove Mounters' International Union of N. A., and in this 1947 Convention, the delegates will have more work than ever before, more problems than have ever confronted us which are caused by an increase in Local Unions and membership.

Since our last Convention which was held in a war year, we have had V.E. Day and V.J. Day. It was a pleasure to have back with us the hundreds of members of our Union who answered the call to serve, and it also made us very sad to realize that many of them would never come back to us or to their families. Yes, they died that we might have the freedom we now enjoy, that we who are alive today may enjoy the fruits of our labor as well as those who will follow us.

With the war over many problems began to come up that were very trying to your International Officers, as well as to the Local Unions. We saw various Government regulations such as the Little Steel Formula, the War Labor Board, The Wage Stabilization Act, and many others which Labor was bound to respect, and did, in order to win the peace, go out of existence, and the abolishing of many of these regulations also brought up problems that had to be solved in order that our organization could continue to grow.

We also saw at the end of the war the cost of living rise steadily, employers' profits mount and a reluctant attitude of some employers in the stove, heater and enamel industry to grant justifiable increases in wages, consistent with the rising cost of living. We started a course of negotiations with some of these employers, that though quite rugged, brought the results required. It was a tough uphill fight all the way, and I dare say these results in wages and other conditions were felt in the entire stove, heater and enamel industry.

To be frank, our problems tripled because of the above conditions, and much more so because from the very first day after our Convention in Quincy, Illinois, in July, 1944, the incoming Executive Board to the man, decided that the Stove Mounters' International Union was taking from that day on, progressive steps to give our membership all they were entitled to in better wages, better working conditions, and better understanding between International Union and its affiliated Locals. We also felt that steps had to be taken to organize the unorganized coming within our jurisdiction with all the resources at our disposal, and that we were going to reorganize some of our Local Unions that needed reorganization.

Immediately after V-J Day our per capita tax to the International Union dropped because of reconversion of plants back to stove and enamel work. For some time many plants were down because of building programs which kept our membership out of work, but slowly this condition faded away, but not until it had left its mark on the organizing drive of our International Union financially.

We were also faced with the payment of Strike Benefits in a long strike at Nashville, Tennessee, that used up our organizing fund we had accumulated for the purpose of organizing work after the war was over. This fight just had to be won or we would have been placed in a very unhealthy condition in the South, and all of our Southern Locals would have suffered because the Southern Manufacturers with whom we have contracts were watching this fight.

We suffered for over one year the loss of the services of our Los Angeles Representative Kenneth Petro, and for a greater length of time the services of Representative James Grubbs of Nashville, Tennessee, and Representative Leo Lucas of Louisville, Kentucky. Petro and Grubbs went into the Armed Forces, Lucas as A. F. of L. Liaison Officer for the O. P. A.

We are proud to have had these men serving their country during this terrible war. Proud because they did their part and brought high honor to themselves, their families and to this International Union.

While Brother Petro was away from the West Coast, Brother John D. Roberts carried on for him there; in Louisville, Brother Edgar Whitfield carried on for Brother Lucas as part time Representative. Both of these men did splendid work.

We were also very fortunate during these past three years to have Brother Edwin F. Kaiser, Assistant Secretary, do organizing work, taking up various grievances, filing cases with the N. L. R. B. and negotiations with various new shops. His efforts and assistance have been the result of many fine new Locals, and all this was done aside from his regular duties.

It can be said for the Executive Board members and the Special Representatives and cooperating Locals, that more new Locals were organized since our last Convention to the present time than the six year period previous to it, and that our membership is at its highest point in the long history of our International Union.

We now also have the services of Brother James Roberts of O'Fallon, Illinois, who is also doing a splendid job.

I would also like to report on the various meetings of District Councils that I have attended and I am happy to say that in the Michigan District a new Council has been formed and has worked to the advantage of the affiliated Locals in that district. I have had the pleasure of attending two of their meetings since I have been your President.

The Southwestern District has grown since the last Convention with several new Locals becoming affiliated, and regular and special meetings have been held from time to time on joint negotiations which have had very good negotiating effect for the Locals involved.

The Southeastern District has had many meetings since the Convention and I have attended nearly all of them. These delegates from this district have very good conferences. It has been a means of encouraging better negotiations, better agreements and better employee and employer relations and it has been a means of keeping our Locals in a good sound condition.

The West Coast District has two District Councils, one in the Northern part of California, the other in Southern California. These two groups met for the first time late in 1946 to formulate plans for wage negotiations. The results of this meeting according to the report of the meeting were gratifying and with good results.

It is with profound pleasure that we announce to this Convention the following new Locals either completely organized with agreements signed and some awaiting hearing or certification by the N. L. R. B.:

Local #99, Red Bud, Illinois (election pending), Local #103, Dallas, Texas (complete with agreement), Local #105, Effingham, Illinois (complete with agreement), Local #106, Los Angeles, California (complete with agreement), Local #107, St. Louis, Mo. (complete with agreement), Local #108, St. Louis, Mo. (complete with agreement), Local #109, Oakland, California (complete with agreement), Local #110, St. Louis, Mo. (complete with agreement), Local #111, Rome, Georgia (complete with agreement), Local #113, Freeburg, Illinois (complete with agreement), Local #115, Richmond, Virginia (complete with agreement—2 shops), Local #120, Newark, Ohio (complete with agreement), Local #123, Maywood, California (complete with agreement), Local #125 (complete with agreement), Local #126, St. Louis, Mo. (N. L. R. B. Election pending), Local #127, Los Angeles, California (complete with agreement), Local #130, Louisville, Kentucky (complete with agreement), Local #132, St. Louis, Mo. (N. L. R. B. Election pending), Local #133, St. Louis, Mo. (complete with agreement), Local #11, St. Louis, Mo. (completely organized), Local #83, Oakland, California (completely reorganized), Local #135, Nashville, Tenn. (election pending).

I would like to touch on the jurisdictional dispute that came before the American Federation of Labor Convention through the Metal Trades Department in form of a resolution to take our International Charter away. The entire Executive Board met in Washington on this question on January 8, 1947, and again on April 17, 1947. It finally became obvious that the organizations who were claiming that we were raiding their jurisdiction had to admit that they were the guilty ones, having in their Union membership that should rightfully belong to the Stove Mounters Union. In this connection one of the Unions finally admitted that while we did not have anyone under their jurisdiction in our International Union, they had many members who rightfully belong to our organization but frankly told us there wasn't enough room in the stove industry for both of us. We countered by saying we intended to stay in the stove industry regardless of how they felt.

We do not know what action the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor took on this question.

I am sure that the entire delegation to this Convention will agree with the Executive Board that we shall resist any raid upon our jurisdiction, regardless of when or where it may come from. We do know that not to resist this condition would tend to lower the wage rates and good working conditions now enjoyed by our Local Unions and by far higher than those who would try to raid us.

This Convention should by all means make proper financial arrangement to carry on in the next three years a sound progressive organizing program. It has been proved by the first part of this report that organizing the plants under our jurisdiction can be accomplished. This has been done one might say, as a sideline, or on a limited scale because each officer used up most of his time in negotiations. We need at least five or more organizers in the field as soon as possible to do nothing but organizing. Details of negotiating agreements are to be left to the members of the Executive Board wherever and whenever it is possible. We have the districts for such organizing work mapped out in detail and sound organizing drives can double our membership in the next three years.

This Convention should by all means also make a change from weekly dues to monthly dues. This would mean a lot less work for the Local Secretary, the International office, and would in many ways save both money and time to the Locals and the International Union. In this respect it would also be advisable to instigate a new system of loose leaf ledgers for each Local. It would not be necessary to change the new due book or ledgers until they expired. They could be used out.

I would like to report on the Auto Stove Company fight at East St. Louis and New Athens, Illinois.

We have negotiated with this Company for ten years for a large group of Mounters, presshands, craters and laborers at the East St. Louis plant and for the only mounters at the New Athens plant where the foundry is situated, three in number. For several years negotiations have been held with the Belleville employers and the Auto Stove Company jointly. In fact, during the war all directives from the War Labor Board were for this entire joint group, including also the Eagle Foundry Company of East St. Louis, which is now the Locke Stove Company. In the 1946 negotiations as always the negotiations were on a joint basis. This year the Auto Stove Company did not join in the joint sessions, but stated that whatever action was taken in the Belleville negotiations they would abide by.

After the negotiations were concluded at Belleville, the Auto Stove Committee of Local #52 approached the Company with its agreement, and the Company was willing to sign it provided a change would be made in the heading of the Agreement which would read, "The Auto Stove Company of National City, East St. Louis" rather than the former heading of "Auto Stove Company." At the same time the Company announced that they were closing the East St. Louis plant and moving to New Athens, Illinois, and that they were bargaining with the Molders Union because our three members at New Athens had left our organization to join the Molders.

Local #52 promptly closed the plant and filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board on unfair Labor practices against the Company. This case is now pending.

We were forced to put a mass picket line around the New Athens plant to keep the members of the Molders Union out of the shop and from doing our work.

After several weeks the Company was granted an injunction against our Local #52, Local #60, Local #14 and our International Union. Picketing was restricted to four to each entrance whereby with the blessing of the Molders International Union the Molders have crossed our picket line since.

If we are wrong in this controversy then the National Labor Relations Board has been wrong in every case since it has been in force. In fact, if we are wrong then a bargaining unit means nothing and we can then ask for an election in any plant where we have a majority regardless of trade. We are determined that this raid on our Local Union #52 and our International Union will not succeed and we are just as determined that the Molders Union and their good friends, the Manufacturers Protective & Development Association, are not going to play partners in a move to destroy our International Union or play dictator methods of divide and conquer.

One of the highlights of this controversy was before the injunction was granted the President of the Molders Union made a long statement to the Belleville News Democrat in which, among other things that he said unbecoming a good Trade Unionist was "If the Company gets a court injunction against the Stove Mounters Union, we will send our people to work through the picket line." And to add just a little more to this picture, the attorneys of the M. P. & D. A. and the M. P. & D. A. Representatives were on hand during all developments, and why not since by dealing with the Molders Union rates of pay for Mounters would be 11c per hour lower for press hands, shear men, brakes, and other classifications of work, 23c per hour lower under an M. P. & D. A. Agreement with no one working under these classifications having a rank and file vote on the negotiations, or a chance to vote for rejection or acceptance of same.

We are happy to say that not one gas range has been manufactured since the strike by this Company, in spite of the scabs working and piling up castings.

Soon after our 1944 Convention, I contacted every State Federation for information concerning stove, heater and enamel plants and found that thousands of employees working in many of these plants are in Federal Unions.

I have contacted William Green of the American Federation of Labor by letter and personally many times in an effort to get him to allow us to give these people a chance to join our International Union, and have asked him to allow A. F. of L. Organizers to cooperate with us. Mr. Green has never made any statement on this question that would lead us to believe he would cooperate with us on this question. However, we have protested this condition from time to time.

We have made efforts to get the Colman Lamp and Stove Company, Independent Union to come over with us. There are over 1200 men and women in this Independent Union employed as Stove and Enamel workers. We are inviting them to send an officer of their Union to visit with us at this Convention.

In 1945 all Locals were sent a circular letter in regard to their thoughts on organizing Ladies Auxiliary Charters in each district where we have locals. I am sorry to say that the response was discouraging. I still believe that these Auxiliary groups would be of great value to the sale of Union made Stoves and Heaters and properly organized could be of great benefit to our organization in general.

Brother Kaiser and myself attended the 1944 Convention of the American Federation of Labor at New Orleans, also the Metal Trades and Union Label Trades Convention.

We assisted in every way to make the Union Label Exhibition in St. Louis a success. This exhibit was held from October 29 to November 2, 1946. We passed out over 300,000 match folders, scratch pads, blotters and we feel it was well worth while to all of us. We had a variety of Stoves and Heaters on display and many members of the various Locals here assisted us in every way possible.

We received full and complete cooperation from I. M. Ornburn, Sec.-Treas. of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, and received a Certificate of Merit from the Department for our part in making the show a success. We hope that the incoming Executive Board will again have a display at the Union Industries show which will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 12 to 16, 1948.

We have a real friend in Dick Ornburn, Secretary of the Union Label Trades Department, and all we can do to help him put this show over will not only assist him in the fine work he is doing, but will assist us in the sales of Union label stoves, ranges and heaters.

Since the above report was written I have received a letter from President Green of the American Federation of Labor in regard to our two trips to Washington on this jurisdictional controversy. The Executive Board of the Federation has suggested that we send another Committee to try and iron out these questions. I will leave this question of a new Committee to the Delegates to this Convention.

I will not try to give a report on the agreements I have assisted many Locals with, or the hundreds of grievances settled and the organizing work and other detail work which I have had to do. Delegates to this Convention, many of them committeemen and officers, are just as familiar with these questions as I am, but I will say that I have had all the cooperation that could possibly be had from each and every Local and its officers and it has been a pleasure in these past three years to represent you as your General President.

I hope and pray that the delegates will work out good sound policies and constructive ideas under which the incoming Executive Board can continue to develop the progressive growth of our International Union, to the end that we can continue to be as in the past, a great democratic institution.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSEPH LEWIS,  
General President

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF VICE-PRESIDENT RAYMOND LEVINGSTON

Officers, Delegates and Members to the Twenty-Seventh Convention of the Stove Mounters International Union of North America, 1947.

A report of my activities for the past (33) thirty-three months, since our last International Convention held in the City of Quincy, Ill.

### AUGUST, 1944

First part of this month, I was in Quincy, Ill., working with Locals No. 3, 7, 9. Leaving Quincy, going to Louisville, Ky., meeting with Locals No. 20, 21, 55, 66. From Louisville, Ky., to Kankakee, Ill. Local No. 32. From Kankakee, I returned to Quincy, Ill., meeting with Local No. 7. Also attended W. L. B. hearing in Chicago, Ill., last part of August.

### SEPTEMBER, 1944

Attended W. L. B. hearing in Cleveland, Ohio. Then to Baltimore, Md., working with Local No. 50. From Baltimore, to Kankakee, Ill., Local No. 32. From Kankakee, to St. Louis. And back to Cleveland, Ohio.

### OCTOBER, 1944

First of October at Newark, Ohio, working with Local No. 16. From Newark, I went to Chicago, Ill., for a W. L. B. hearing. Last of this month, I was at Quincy, Ill., working with Local No. 7.

### NOVEMBER, 1944

First part of this month, I was at Cleveland, Ohio, attending a W. L. B. hearing. From Cleveland, I went to Louisville, Ky., Locals No. 66, 21. The last of this month, I was at Quincy, Ill.

### DECEMBER, 1944

I attended a W. L. B. hearing at Chicago, Ill., returning back to Newark, Ohio, and working with Local No. 16, also made trips to Cleveland, Ohio, for Labor Board hearings.

### JANUARY, 1945

First part of this month, I was in Newark, Ohio, working with Local No. 16. And the last of month, I was at Quincy, Ill., and St. Louis working with Locals No. 3, 7, 9.

### FEBRUARY, 1945

Attended our Executive-Board meeting at St. Louis, from our Board meeting, I went to Columbus, Ohio, to meet with Local No. 64.

### MARCH, 1945

First of March, I was at Baltimore, Md., meeting with Local No. 50. From Baltimore, I went to Dickson City, Pa., and Pittston, Pa., working with Locals No. 87, 45, from Dickson City, made a trip to Philadelphia, Pa., for a hearing before the Labor Board, from Philadelphia, I went to Louisville, Ky., Local No. 66.

### APRIL, 1945

The first of April, I was at Quincy, Ill., Locals No. 3, 7, 9, from Quincy, I attended Labor Board hearing at Cleveland, Ohio, from Cleveland, I went to Delaware, Ohio.

## MAY, 1945

The first of May, I went to Geneva, N. Y., to meet with Local No. 98, from Geneva, I went to Taunton, Mass., and met with Local No. 40. From Taunton, to Cleveland, Ohio, for Labor Board hearing.

## JUNE, 1945

Almost all the month of June, I was in Newark, Ohio, working with Local No. 16, and Conciliators. Also was at our International Office.

## JULY, 1945

Attended Labor Board hearing at Cleveland, Ohio, from Cleveland, to Kokomo, Ind., working with Local No. 57.

## AUGUST, 1945

First of this month, I was at Crestline, Ohio, and Columbus, Ohio, then back to Newark, Ohio, and the last of the month, I was at Cleveland, Ohio, also Cincinnati, Ohio, Local No. 70.

## SEPTEMBER, 1945

The first of September, I was at Shelbyville, Ind., Local No. 36. From Shelbyville, I went to Baltimore, Md., Local No. 50, from Baltimore, to Dickson City, Pa., Local No. 87. Also made a trip to Moundsville, W. Va.

## OCTOBER, 1945

First of October, I was at our International Office, from St. Louis, to Nashville, Tenn., Locals No. 53, 80, from Nashville, to Chattanooga, Tenn., Locals No. 23, 30, 31, 37. From Chattanooga, to Atlanta, Ga., to meet with N. L. R. B.

## NOVEMBER, 1945

At Baltimore, Md., the first of month. Attended our Executive Board meeting at St. Louis, from St. Louis, went to Geneva, N. Y., Local No. 98.

## DECEMBER, 1945

First of this month at Newark, Ohio, and Columbus, Ohio, from Columbus, to Quincy, Ill., Locals No. 3, 7, 9.

## JANUARY, 1946

At Indianapolis, Ind., Local No. 43, from Indianapolis, to Kokomo, Ind., Local No. 57, from Kokomo, to Taunton, Mass., Local No. 40, from Taunton, to Dickson City and Pittston, Pa., Locals No. 87, 45.

## FEBRUARY, 1946

First of this month, I was at Cincinnati, Ohio, and attended the funeral of Honorary Vice-President William F. Egan. From Cincinnati, I went to Dickson City, Pa., Local No. 87, from Dickson City, to Indianapolis, Ind., Local No. 43.

## MARCH, 1946

At Newark, Ohio, first part of month. Attended our Executive Board meeting at St. Louis, from St. Louis to Quincy, Ill., Locals No. 3, 7, 9.

## APRIL, 1946

The first of the month I was at Dickson City, Pa., Local No. 87, from Dickson City, to Geneva, N. Y., Local No. 98, from Geneva, to Newark, Ohio, then on to St. Louis, and Kankakee, Ill., Local No. 32.

**MAY, 1946**

Most of the month of May, I was at Quincy, Ill., Local No. 7. From Quincy I went to Indianapolis, Ind., Local No. 43.

**JUNE, 1946**

At Newark, Ohio, working with Locals No. 16, 120, also at Delaware, Ohio.

**JULY, 1946**

At Hamilton, Ohio, first of month, from Hamilton, I went to Pittston, Pa., Local No. 45, from Pittston, to Richmond, Va., Local No. 115, from Richmond, to Baltimore, Md., Local No. 50.

**AUGUST, 1946**

First of month at Baltimore, Local No. 50, from Baltimore, to Mansfield, Ohio, from Mansfield, to Quincy, Ill., Locals No. 3, 7, 9.

**SEPTEMBER, 1946**

At Hamilton, Ohio, from Hamilton to Indianapolis, Ind., Local No. 43. From Indianapolis to Anderson, Ind., Local No. 73, from Anderson, to the American Federation of Labor Convention, at Chicago, Ill.

**OCTOBER, 1946**

The first of October, still at the American Federation of Labor Convention, from the Convention, made a trip to Kokomo, Ind., Local No. 57, from Kokomo, to Hamilton, Ohio.

**NOVEMBER, 1946**

Attending our Executive Board meeting at St. Louis, from the Board meeting, I went to Kokomo, Ind., Local No. 57. From Kokomo, I returned to Hamilton, Ohio.

**DECEMBER, 1946**

At the first of December, I am back in Kokomo, Local No. 57. From Kokomo, to Indianapolis, Ind., Local No. 43.

**JANUARY, 1947**

The first of January, made a trip to Washington, D. C. From Washington, I went to Dickson City, Pa., Local No. 87, from Dickson City, to Geneva, N. Y., Local No. 98.

**FEBRUARY, 1947**

At Effingham, Ill., Local No. 105, where we won the Election, from U. M. W. District No. 50, from Effingham, to Newark, Ohio, and Columbus, Ohio.

**MARCH, 1947**

First of March, I was at Anderson, Ind., Local No. 73. From Anderson, to Kankakee, Ill., Local No. 32, from Kankakee, to Quincy, Ill., Local No. 3, from Quincy, to Effingham, Ill., Local No. 105.

**APRIL, 1947**

At Anderson, Ind., Local No. 73, from Anderson, to Pittston, Pa., Local No. 43, from Pittston, to Washington, D. C., from Washington, back to Anderson, Ind.

**MAY, 1947**

The first of May, I was at the International Office. From St. Louis, I went to Quincy, Ill., Local No. 7. From Quincy, to Taunton, Mass., Local No. 40. Returning to Newark, Ohio, May 11th, 1947.

In closing this report of my activities, I wish to thank all my Brother Officers and Members, for their fine cooperation extended to me, also to extend, to one and all, the best of wishes at this, our Twenty-Seventh Stove Mounters Convention.

Yours Fraternally,  
RAYMOND LEVINGSTON,  
Vice-President

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF VICE-PRESIDENT JOHN F. GREEN

Convention Report of Vice-Pres. John F. Green from July 24, '44, to May, '47.

1944

Following my election in Quincy, Illinois, July 21, 1944, I was assigned to Local 14, Lewisburg, Tennessee. We had an election there and won the bargaining rights from the C. I. O. by a vote of 289 A. F. L. and 247 C. I. O. After the election we built the Local up to a membership of over 150 from a low of 15 when I arrived there. Negotiations for the agreement began Sept. 11 and were completed one month later on October 11, '44. Returning home in the meantime we instituted a new charter Local 99 on Oct. 8, 1944, in Red Bud, Illinois. We held an election in the American Furnace Co. but lost it due to the efforts put forth by the firm. The tactics they engaged in caused the filing of charges before the N. L. R. B. After a two-day hearing held in Red Bud by Trial Examiner Webb the firm was found guilty of violating the Wagner Act in many instances. They appealed to N. L. R. B. in Washington, D. C., but still we won the decision. They then appealed to the 7th District Court of Appeals who also ruled in our favor. The firm was ordered to post the Cease and Desist Order and comply with same and which they only posted the notice and now charges are pending for contempt of court. This has been dragging out for over two years but we still have some members left in the plant.

Also paid a visit to Newark, Ohio, to meet with a group of Enamel Workers who now are chartered as Local 120. Made a trip to Effingham, Illinois, in November, '44, and contacted some people to lay groundwork for a Local there. In between time and for balance of year 1944 I was occupied with Local 99 Red Bud, Ill., and Local 14, Lewisburg, Tennessee. I also attended an Executive Board meeting held in St. Louis during the month of October. The time spent in the St. Louis area was spent in assisting the various Locals in this area.

1945

As the year of 1945 began I was assisting in the reorganization of Local 11 in St. Louis, also in setting up the charter for Local 110 for Hussman Ligonier employees. Also assisted Locals 11, 52, 60, 86 and 99 in contract negotiations but the firm refused to recognize Local 99. Visited Newark, Ohio, to assist Local 16 in preparations for panel hearing and assisted Local 14, Lewisburg, Tennessee, in new contract negotiations and adjusting some minor grievances. While in Newark, Ohio, promoted further interest in our International Union to Enamel Workers which resulted in their affiliation with us.

In July I went to Chicago to try to get a large group of Stove Workers in an Independent Union to come over to us and also visited Regional Director of the A. F. L. Headquarters to gain the information desired for future references. That same month I went to Richmond, Va., and we instituted Local 115 recruited from the employees in the Southern Stove Works and Cameron Stove Co. of that town. Instituting the charter and gaining recognition without an election in these shops in August and Sept. was very satisfactory. The balance of the year was spent in contract negotiations in these two shops in Richmond. Had also attended the International Executive Board meetings held in February and October. Also circularized Wrought Iron Range Co. and assisted in the organization of this Local 126 which has grown stronger as time goes by. Gave some attention to Local 99's case of Red Bud, Illinois, when same was required. While working in Richmond, Va., I also investigated the possible chances of organization in that area.

1946

The beginning of this year started with filing of charges before the

N. L. R. B. against the American Furnace Co. of Red Bud, Illinois, for discharges of Union members. Also returned to Richmond, Va., to complete negotiations for the increase in pay requested. Assisted with negotiations of Local 24 and Locke Heater Co. of E. St. Louis, Illinois. Attended meeting of Locals of Southwestern District in Mark Twain Hotel in St. Louis, Mo. Assisted Locals in this area at that time in an effort to negotiate new contracts.

Assisted in efforts to win election in Hussman Ligonier which we won from C. I. O. two to one, giving Local 110 the bargaining rights. But our efforts in the elections of which we had two in Wrought Iron Range were not successful but our Local still holds fast.

Spent some time in passing out circulars at various shops in St. Louis where a possible change of organization existed and our efforts paid off in new Locals being formed. Also renewed negotiations in Lewisburg, Tennessee, for Local 14 for the year which were finally completed by our Southern Representatives, Grubbs and O'Neal. Paid a visit to Kalamazoo, Michigan, in effort to get a Local of Enamelters into our International Union. Assisted the Locals in the Southwestern District who were on strike for 125 days or better. Went to Effingham, Illinois, about the middle of September to reorganize the Local 105. We petitioned for an election which was set for a later date and preventing District 50 from renewing their contract which expired Dec. 7, 1946.

During the summer we instituted Local 113 of the Wrigman Electric Co. in Freeburg, Illinois, by winning the election in August. The balance of the year my time was divided between Locals 99, Red Bud, Local 113, Freeburg, and Local 105, Effingham, trying to make these Locals reach the 100% tops in membership.

1947

Outside of visits to Richmond, Va., and twice to Washington, D. C., on matters important to our International Union I spent most of my time in Effingham to build up a strong membership in our Local 105 which enabled us to win the election in February this year by 113 vote majority. Our Local now has over 550 members paid up out of a potential 800 membership. Negotiations for a good substantial agreement began the latter part of March and have proceeded nicely. At this writing in May we have just completed the signing of the agreement which has been accepted by the Local by a good majority. My time was also required in advising the new Officers and trying to complete 100% organization in this Local 105 whose delegates to our convention can give a more convincing report of their Local's hard battle to win the election and a solid Local Union.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN F. GREEN,  
Vice-President



## OFFICIAL REPORT OF VICE-PRESIDENT RUSS O'NEAL

Greetings:

At the convention held in Quincy, Ill., I was made a vice-president by election. I want to thank all who so cast their vote. I have had their welfare in my heart, and have served their interest to the very best of my ability. I have found plenty of work to do, even while the war still continues, and we were held down by war-time restrictions. I settled grievances, negotiated contracts and visited locals when I could. In fact, tried to fill two men's shoes,

for when Bro. James Grubbs left us at the call of his country to serve in the Navy, I took over his territory and did the best I could. I organized Gray-Dudley Co., Nashville, Tenn., and now Local No. 75 is one of our most flourishing Locals. I put in some time at Marshall Stove Co., Local 14, Lewisburg, Tenn., where the C. I. O. were endeavoring to gain a foothold. But this assignment was put in the hands of Vice-President Green, as I was needed elsewhere.

I went to St. Louis and attended the Executive Board meeting, which convened October 23, 1944. Back in my own territory, I settled grievances assigned to me by International Headquarters Office, and discussed contracts pending negotiation.

On November 12, 1944, I presided over the Southeastern District Convention in Nashville, Tenn. We had with us Joseph Lewis, our new President, who was enthusiastically received by the delegates, and Edw. W. Kaiser, General Secretary-Treasurer, who is always welcome.

This period of time was full of unrest and disturbances. Decisions were slow coming through on account of the wage control regulations. Everyone was working at top speed with one thought in mind, the victorious termination of the war, and bringing the boys home as quickly as possible. It was a gigantic job, our part of it, but we kept the wheels of production rolling until ultimate victory crowned our efforts.

I signed contracts with Locals 33 and 56, U. S. Stove Co., So. Pittsburg, Tenn., getting an increase in wages, retroactive to January 1, 1944, and one week's vacation with pay. I also negotiated and signed contracts with Locals 17. A. & J. Mfg. Co., Gadsden, Ala.; No. 80, Allan Mfg. Co., Nashville, Tenn. I spent some time in Sheffield, Ala., contacting men and taking initial steps toward organizing Martins Stove & Range Co.

The second quarter of 1945 was one of comparatively few grievances. In Bridgeport, Ala., I met with Local No. 48, Jacobs Mfg. Co., several times, and helped them reorganize.

On April 8th I presided over the Southeastern District Convention which was held in Gadsden, Ala. Had a good attendance, a successful meeting. We had with us President Joseph Lewis and Secretary-Treasurer Edw. W. Kaiser. They both made splendid talks.

I was called to Agricola Fur. Co., Gadsden, Ala., Local No. 13, to settle a wage dispute. I went before the O. P. A. Board in Atlanta, Ga., regarding this case, and was advised that it had been sent to the O. P. A. in Washington for a final decision.

I spent some time in organizing Econemaster Stove Co., Shelbyville, Tenn. The company dismissed four of our men for joining the Union, so negotiations were held up. On December 11, 1945, the election was held and we lost. The company had given their employees a raise in wages just prior to election. We had gotten the men who were fired back on their jobs with retroactive pay amounting to \$1,500.

All this time I was continually on the road, going wherever I was needed, to settle grievances and discuss, negotiate and sign contracts.

The fourth quarter of 1945 found us in the reconversion period, with its many problems. War machinery had to be taken out, and machinery for civilian production restored. That brought on some confusion, but on the whole the reconversion programs were carried through with splendid dispatch.

I went before the N. L. R. B. in Atlanta, Ga., in regard to Local No. 31, Samuels Stpg. & En. Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., and Local No. 53, Tennessee Enameling Co.

I attended Executive Board meeting in St. Louis, beginning Nov. 5 to 8, inclusive. Our main discussions were on reconversion. President Joseph Lewis and Edw. W. Kaiser, general secretary-treasurer, gave us sound advice on how to deal with problems and conditions we were sure to encounter.

And so the year 1945 drew to a close. We had been through some pretty trying times, but I looked toward the new year 1946 with hope and determination that our efforts would not go unrewarded, and Labor would come into its own. The struggle was not over by any means, but the Union was not composed of quitters, either.

I assisted in the drawing up, negotiating and signing of contracts for Locals No. 22, Atlanta Stove Works, Atlanta, Ga.; No. 33, U. S. Stove Co., S. Pittsburg, Tenn.; No. 13, Agricola Fur. Co., Gadsden, Ala., and No. 17, A. & J. Stove Co., Gadsden, Ala.

On January 14th we had a strike called at Tenn. En. Co., Local No. 53, Nashville, Tenn., which ran until April 8th, when the employees went back on their jobs.

On April 14th I presided over the Southeastern District Convention which met in Nashville, Tenn. Our guest list was large, many of whom made well-received talks.

The first quarter of 1947 found us with matters of vital importance to be taken care of. Our very existence was threatened, but we were able to meet and accept any challenge that was handed to us.

On January 8th and 9th I was in Washington, D. C., with the entire Executive Board to meet Mr. Green, president of A. F. L., to discuss a jurisdictional dispute. We also visited Local No. 50, Baltimore, Md.

On April 13th I presided over the Southeastern District Convention held in Lewisburg, Tenn. We had several distinguished visitors, including our President, Joseph Lewis, and Secretary-Treasurer Kaiser. Good fellowship reigned supreme. I think I can honestly say these conventions get better and better. The delegates did me the honor of electing me for their president for the ensuing year, and I hereby tender them my thanks. This makes my seventh consecutive term to serve in this capacity.

April 17th found the Executive Board in Washington, D. C. We met with Mr. Knight, who presided over the meeting in the absence of President Green. After discussing the issues at hand, Mr. Knight said he would make a report of our meeting to Executive Council, which met in Washington, D. C., April 25th.

When I was a special representative, and for the three years I have been a vice-president, I have given the best I had to my work. I have faithfully made my reports to the head office, been available 24 hours a day, and filled to the best of my ability all the assignments given me. I want to say it has been a pleasure to work with my fellow officers on the Board, and to thank officers and committeemen of all the locals under my jurisdiction for their cooperation and good-will.

If you feel that I am qualified to hold this job for the next three years I would appreciate your support.

Fraternally,

C. RUSS O'NEAL,

Vice-President

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF VICE-PRESIDENT WILLARD FOGLESON

Shortly after our convention in Quincy, Ill., I was called upon to help out in the St. Louis-Belleville district. I worked with members of committees from Local No. 34 of St. Louis, No. 52 of East St. Louis, and all of our Locals in Belleville. I have also been called to Shelbyville, Indiana, Local No. 26; Anderson, Indiana, Local No. 73; Kokomo, Indiana, No. 57 and I worked at Baltimore, Md., Local No. 50 on several occasions.

I, along with Pres. Lewis and Sec. Kaiser, had two meetings with officers of M. P. & D. A. but did not get close enough together to come to an agreement and this question is still far from settlement.

I have also been trying to do some organizing without much success. I have been in Beaver Dam, Wisc., several times and here in Michigan I worked in Dowagiac, Muskegon, Greenville, Detroit, Coldwater, Marshall, Mount Clemens and Kalamazoo and some towns in Indiana. The greater part of my time is taken up with grievances and contract work and it does not give anyone time to do much organizing.

At the last A. F. of L. convention in Chicago, we were cited by some International Unions affiliated with the Metal Trade for jurisdictional infringement. This matter has been taken up by our entire Executive Board both in St. Louis and Washington and also with Pres. Green of the A. F. of L. and, in my opinion, has proven very decisively that the Stove Mounters are not the ones who are trying to raid other A. F. of L. International Unions.

Now to give a brief report on the Northern District. We have made some very important gains both in wages, working conditions, and membership in the past three years. Our Locals all have increased their wages by an average of fifty per cent. Their membership has increased by approximately fifty per cent, too. We have, at this time, shop averages of as much as \$1.82 per hour. This includes all employees in the shop including labor and all. We have clauses in agreements in the Northern District which includes such items as paid holidays, a middle step in vacation clauses and, in one of our contracts, we have a participating clause which sets aside a certain amount of money for each and every unit and this money is divided among the employees every three months. Our lowest day rate in this district is \$1.00 per hour and this classification is sweepers and janitors. Our lines in all shops here average between \$1.90 and \$2.00 per hour.

I also would like to say in this report that I have had the full cooperation in each and every Local I have been called to work in, and any success which I may have had in settlements of contracts or grievances was due to that help given me by the members for whom I worked.

At this writing, we are faced with some of the most drastic labor laws we have ever dreamed of and, should these laws be passed, we must be organized to survive. So, for the good of all, let's all attend our Local meetings and do our arguing at the halls and then get in back of your officers 100 per cent. Remember: "United we stand, divided we fall."

Yours fraternally,

WILLARD C. FOGLESON,  
Vice-President

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF VICE-PRESIDENT KENNETH PETRO

Since serving in the Armed Forces and returning to the job, after my discharge Jan. 7, of 1946, my Convention Report will be somewhat shorter.

Since our strike at the O'keefe & Merritt Co. in 1936 and the plant being on the unfair list from that time, I have continuously carried on an organizing campaign. On my leaving for the service, Spl. Representative Roberts carried on in my place to the point that on my return to the job, I found we had approximately 35 members in good standing out of a possible 500 and the C. I. O. Steel Workers claiming bargaining rights. With my knowing a large number of the employees of the O'keefe & Merritt employees I was able to contact them at the plant and at their homes. The C. I. O. on the other hand putting up a strong campaign even to the extent of mass picket lines in front of the plant.

After making good gains in the plant, on the part of our organization and the C. I. O. being disturbed over same, they proceeded to file unfair Labor Practices before the N. L. R. B. against the Company and attempted to obtain a cease and desist order, to stop our negotiations and outlaw any contract between the company and our organization.

This resulted into many drag out cases before the N. L. R. B., and I might add that we were very fortunate to receive aid from the State Federation of Labor in placing an Attorney to handle this case involving the Moulder, Polishers and ourselves. A decision was handed down by the N. L. R. B. in Washington in favor of the C. I. O. with the case going into the higher courts for enforcement, where we will have a much better chance of being heard and where I firmly believe we will receive a much more favorable decision.

Although this has been a long drawn out struggle, I am happy to report at this time that we have instead of 35 members, as was the case when I re-tured, we now have, with the very good help of union minded members of the Shop Committee who have assisted me, close to 500 members in good standing.

We have in the last month signed a new agreement with the company granting a 15 cent increase on the hourly rate, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1947, plus 17 classification adjustments, of from 5 to 15 cents on the hour over and above the 15 cent raise.

### Thermador Electrical Mfg. Co.

Through successful negotiations an agreement was reached, granting the membership an increase of 10 cent blanket increase, this being the third increase since March, 1946, making a total of 25 cents per hour since that date. Also at the signing of this agreement, another paid holiday was secured, making a total of four paid holidays per year namely, Christmas Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and New Year's Day. The above mentioned holidays if not worked, to be paid for at straight time rates.

### U. S. Porcelain Enamel Co.

March 11, 1946, the Contract between Local 88 and the U. S. Porcelain Enamel Co. reopened for wages, granting the members an increase of from 5 to 15 cents on the hour.

Since Jan. 1, 1947, we have been in negotiations and in March an agreement was reached, granting all members a 15 cent blanket increase, retroactive Jan. 1, plus 16 classification adjustments of from 5 to 15 cents over and above the 15 cent blanket increase, also four paid holidays.

### Western Stove Co.

Due to the temporary removal of the O. P. A. in July of 1946 and the

cost of living rising beyond reach, and though the agreement was in effect up to Dec., 1946, a request was made of the company to make adjustments to somewhat meet the sudden rise. The company gave in August, 1946, an increase of 5 cents per hour blanket increase over and above the contract rates.

Since Jan. 1, 1947, we have been in negotiations on the agreement and on March 18 an agreement was reached granting a ten cent blanket increase over the 5 cents granted in August, the increase retroactive to Jan. 1, plus 18 classification adjustments of from 5 to 15 cents above the blanket increase. Two paid holidays, namely Christmas and New Year's Day.

The negotiations of the Gaffer & Sattler and Wolf Range Co., carried on until May 8, 1947, at which time an agreement was reached granting an increase of 15 cents per hour, plus the same stipulation as in the above mentioned Western Stove agreement.

I'm happy to report the organizing of two new shops, namely the Rotom Co. of Alhambra, Calif., the membership entering and becoming part of Local 54 and that enjoy the same rates and conditions as set forth in the Thermador Mfg. Co. agreement.

The Ferro Enamel Co. of Maywood and the birth of a new Local 127. Upon being organized the membership of this new Local received an increase of 15 to 25 cents on the hour and in April, 1946, again on renewal of contract received a blanket increase of 15 cents per hour, plus the same provisions as set forth in the U. S. Porcelain agreement.

In the above mentioned shops, namely, the Western Stove Co., Gaffers and Sattler, U. S. Porcelain, Ferro Enamel and Wolf Range Mfg. Co. we have received in our recent negotiations an escalator clause to cover any future increase in the cost of living as shown in the Dept. of Labor Statistics. Also 40 hours pay for first week of injury due to industrial accident or disease.

Along with assisting the Locals in this area on shop disputes, negotiating of agreements and doing organizing work, I have made a number of trips to Northern Calif. to assist Spl. Rep. Roberts on disputes and negotiations in the Frazer Furnace Co., Stockton, James Graham Co., Newark, Hammer Bray Co., Oakland, and the Occidental Co., Irvington.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Officers of our Locals here on the Coast, for their untiring efforts in working with me in obtaining the conditions, that we have and the splendid way the members carried on in face of the discouraging ways and methods of certain Mfgs.

On writing this report we, all of Labor, have just received word of the deaderly blow, rendered Organized Labor by the so called public servants in Washington, in the overriding of the President's veto of the Taft-Hartley Bill, thus enacting a bill that is only a start of what the National Association of Mfgs. would like to be enacted as law, in order that they can destroy all the gains Organized Labor has made in all these years.

With this just being a good start in the plans of destroying organized Labor, it should act as a very good warning to each and every one of us in uniting ourselves even stronger in forestalling any further bills that are planned for enactment and removing from office the makers and supporters of such bills.

Fraternally,

KENNETH PETRO,  
Vice-President

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER EDW. W. KAISER

Greetings, Delegates:

Many changes in regard to workings and also procedures in contracts have taken place and we are forced with laws by individual states, which we think is not within the sovereign rights of each state to enact laws that abridge the rights of the workers. This will naturally affect our progress in gaining membership, as we have to approach the question of organizing from a different angle, since reconversion we have made great strides in organizing work but it required lots of time and effort to achieve and keep the locals that were organized, during the years of the war period we could control the worker that was a card man and a fellow that had to join the local, what reaction the new laws will have on our membership is to be seen.

The question of organization is not going to be as good as when the N. L. R. B. had the civil courts to fall back to to prosecute cases where the employers refused to take any action to negotiate, or give the union a hearing.

Membership should fully realize, the peculiar position leadership will be placed in, and not expect the ratification of strike requests, until the law has been followed out to the letter, then if legal proceedings are brought against the officials, such must be met and paid for by the entire membership, so we now have to think twice and then count ten, before any drastic steps are taken, every member should stand staunchly behind the union to which they are a member and back up their committee and officers now more so than ever in the history of labor.

Our last report shows a decline in locals we had, this report will show a substantial increase over the previous six years, while our last convention report showed a decline we report, a gain.

It will be hard to make a concise report on our active membership due to reports, not being sent in to make it authentic, approximately in the come and go as it is to date, we carry in round figures some 10,000 active members.

While we are on this subject we should realize that it took long hours of work, and extra funds to this with all coming out of the general fund.

### JOURNALS

During the last three years we have distributed to our various locals and single copies approximately 110,000 copies, at a cost of \$7,920.96 which as you can realize the difference in the higher prices and taxes put on papers and printing mailing and set up work of printing, our last report showed the cost of the journal for 12 quarters \$4,640.19 or an increase over 1944 of \$3,280.77 I wish to say here that our local editors do not contribute for our journal as they should do, and paper costs alone has been a great problem, and linotype has increased, this all adds to the costs.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board has had many perplexing problems to confront them during the war period and reconversion, and more so due do to rising costs of living and change overs to protect the locals that we have, and keep them intact from foreign sources, invading forces that have been at work, trying to break down our locals, but by A. F. of L. affiliates and C. I. O. Just as soon as they find an agreement expires or near the date, they file with the N. L. R. B. an intervenor to hold an election, which stops all bargaining with us, we have been busy with such cases and elections in new shops, also long hearings and in some cases awaiting court decisions. Another matter comes to mind at this writing that of what has changed from January to every month in the year, the expiring dates of agreements. There is not a week passes that agreements are not ready for negotiations, and

retroactive dates established first, is the most essential part of same; some take two days, some weeks, before anything can be reported on them, and in many cases now attorneys sit in on them for the companies. Many responsibilities rest with the Executive Board and especially when times and economic conditions change as fast as they have in the past nine months, instead of the great prosperity that many saw coming last year, we are now about to witness a period, or a lull before the storm as many say, of unemployment which will make the labor market long on workers, and force them into accepting below standards that have been set to get employment. This is to be given most close consideration for the future and analyze each situation as the case may be, fully, carefully, and patiently, and do not jump at snap conclusions.

#### OFFICE

We have been faced with many problems as to hiring of help to get out reports, agreements, for new locals, copying, briefs, circulars and cards for return on those wishing to join with us, daily communications besides the regular mail for supplies, keeping of records, and assisting our workers in the field. In many cases in the last three years, it was from Labor Board on unfair practices, N. L. R. B. conciliators, arbitration cases, night meetings with new locals, auditing books of locals, in many cases where secretaries have been short on their accounts, and bonding company requesting exact shortages, and we found that many good office workers were making more money in production work than they would be paid in an office, and they would not accept any position due to this condition. We have bought ahead to keep overhead down as much as we possibly could. You will find in our quarterly statements at various months where we bought treasury certificates to a large sum and then resold them back the next month; this was due to avoid payment the city tax on funds on deposit in the banks, as of June 30th of each year. We also had investigated our account with the Federation Bank and Trust Co. of N. Y. and our Treasury certificate on liquidation that we had to accept during the moratorium to permit the reorganization of the Federation Bank of N. Y. so that we would not lose all our funds when this bank became insolvent, although we had this certificate, I had the treasurer and vice-president of the Lindell Trust Co. to investigate this certificate and we found that the trustee over the liquidation failed to notify us as per the order of the N. Y. state court, as the liquidation had already started, and applied for by the holders of the certificates that we questioned why the full amount had not been made payable to the amount the holders had been forced to subscribe to when the bank was found insolvent. We had to surrender the certificate in order to recover what we did recover under this liquidation, and before we did this we took a photostatic copy of the certificate, in order if this bank finally did pay off more than what we have already received, we could indemnify our position for the balance which would be due us. We have found that this was all they could be compelled to pay at this time. Our St. Louis, Mo., bank officials have done everything possible, through the Chase National Bank of N. Y. to make the Continental Bank of N. Y. that discounted the certificates at 20% which the photostatic copy of same will show. Our work has increased since the last convention which our journal report has already shown the membership and as we have grown we had to cover more mail, and more meetings and complaints, and assist those on the road. You will note from the President's report as to the progress that has been made under circumstances, sometimes inconceivable, how our program worked out, in many cases one man could not handle the situation and achieve the success of getting the plant organized under our title. I cannot recount just how many circular letters and follow up sheets of mimeograph copies we have distributed, during our active campaign to gain new members and Locals. You will also find printing matter as ordered and charged against the local that has been handled through this office; you will also find that attorney's fees ran into quite a sum of money, due to suits that have been instituted against your President, Secretary, and Vice-President in Tennessee that had to be defended that ran into \$5,000.00 each at the instant of one president of Local No. 30 in a result of a quarrel of the employment of a woman at the Cavalier Plant in the city of Chattanooga, Tenn.;

also with N. L. R. B. cases of hearing where company's attorneys defended the company.

#### UNION LABELS

We are having more demand for union labels since V-J Day and also the tag label which was a request by Albion Local through the firm Lonergan Stove Co. Last year we had the pleasure of the Union Label Trades Department, having their Union Industries Show in the City of St. Louis, Mo., which more than 350,000 passed through the doors in one week and many times during that week they had to close the doors of the huge auditorium so as not to overcrowd the exhibit. We had put out over a million books of matches, and memo books, from our display booth which was a double one but we were only charged for a single booth due to our co-operation with the office of the Union Label Trades Dept. and our good friend and brother Mr. I. N. Ornburn, and we expect that he will be a speaker at this convention.

#### STRIKE BENEFITS

Strike benefits paid during the three year period amounted to \$20,112.50 and also from this fund the defense of Local No. 30 and officers, fees to attorney was drawn from this fund, due to pledge to President F. D. R. we had carried out our pledge, this assisted us somewhat in maintaining our present status.

#### DEATH BENEFIT FUND

The death benefit fund was benefited to the extent of the \$1.00 per year assessment. Death benefits during last 3 years have been paid \$72,091.08 against \$36,525.00 for previous 3-year period, or an increase of \$35,566.08. Here I must comment on the question of Beneficiary Cards issued that under circumstances as our funds will show and the generous turn over in the labor field, we will be compelled to advance the number of years membership a new member will have to be active before the locals can issue him or her a Beneficiary Honorary Card. I would suggest that three years be the minimum time; this I believe frankly will help our death fund considerably.

#### NEW MEMBERSHIP

Our records showed on the report last convention Card No. 40421. On this date we have Card No. 59068, or card increase of 18,647, while our standing in membership as shown May report is 12,341 active and 264 beneficiary members. Our membership approximately was 8,872 last convention, and now shows an increase of 3,469 members.

#### SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS

July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1947

Due Stamps .....	\$230.23	230.14
Beneficiary Stamps .....	7,638.80	
Out of Work Stamps .....	8,507.17	
Initiation Fees .....	28,682.54	
Reinstatement Fees .....	2,292.00	
Assessments .....	29,476.70	
Supplies .....	7,034.19	
Interest .....	958.49	
Social Security Taxes .....	918.79	
Withholding Taxes .....	8,278.13	
Returned, Benefits .....	1,207.50	
Bonds .....	2,420.31	
Miscellaneous returned .....	1,103.84	
Returned on Office Furn. Lewis .....	145.06	
 Total .....	\$328,893.66	
Prev. Bal. .....	66,095.97	
 Total .....	\$394,989.63	

## SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

Salaries .....	\$ 91,879.00
Hotel .....	39,963.82
Car & Bus Fares .....	4,429.16
Railroad Fares .....	22,668.53
Postage .....	3,499.94
Telephone & Telegrams .....	9,640.48
Office Supplies .....	8,758.80
Local Supplies .....	14,103.18
Death Benefits .....	72,091.08
Strike Benefits .....	20,102.50
Per Capita Taxes & Asst. ....	14,678.55
*Miscellaneous .....	45,214.32
Bonds .....	844.15
Journals .....	7,920.96
	\$345,794.47
Total Receipts and Prev. Bal. ....	\$394,989.63
Total Expenditures .....	345,794.47

To Balance .....

\$ 49,195.16

\*Explanation on Miscellaneous Account: Taxes other than Per Capita by City, Purchasing, state unemployment employers, attorneys' fees, withdrawal for Treasury bills, Rents, towel service, Retainer fees, Hall, Rents, organizing new locals.

June 30, 1947—Bal. \$49,195.16, which a deficit of \$16,900.81 over a three year period, considering the increase in membership and new locals organized of which accounts for some, of deficit, and special assessment and raise of Per Capita Tax to A. F. of L. and fees defending suits which have been paid as well as other legal fees in other cases. The balance of \$49,195.16 and books of Secretary-Treasurer has been audited by the duly elected trustees and signed and certified as correct.

Fraternally submitted,

EDW. W. KAISER,  
Secretary-Treasurer

## SUMMARY FOR THREE YEAR PERIOD

July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1947

Balance June 30, 1944 .....	\$ 66,095.97
Receipts to June 30, 1945 .....	102,372.32
Total .....	\$168,468.29
Expenses July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1945 .....	91,119.43
Balance, July 1, 1945 .....	\$ 77,348.86
Receipts to June 30, 1946 .....	97,571.48
Total .....	\$174,920.34
Expenses July 1, 1945, to June 30, 1946 .....	127,056.81
Balance, July 1, 1946 .....	\$ 47,863.53
Receipts to June 30, 1947 .....	128,949.86
Total .....	\$176,813.49
Expenses July 1, 1946, to June 30, 1947 .....	127,618.23
Balance July 1, 1947, Total .....	\$ 49,195.16
Condition of Funds:	

General Fund	\$	1,000.00
Death Fund		38,320.81
Strike Fund		10,874.35
To Balance	\$	49,195.16
Deposited Lindell Trust Co., St. Louis (Saving)	\$	26,218.94
Deposited Lindell Trust Co., St. Louis (Check Acct.)		10,308.77
Deposited Lindell Trust Co., St. Louis (Safety Bonds)		14,990.00
Deposited Journal Postage U. S. Post Office		14.57
Uncollected Loan, Local No. 1, Detroit, Mich.		300.00
In Hands of Officers, advance		3,500.00
Total	\$	55,382.28
Outstanding checks as of June 30, 1947		6,187.12
To Balance	\$	49,195.16

## FUNDS IN GENERAL

We have during the past three years increased our field forces, and in general economic conditions have increased, and therefore we have paid for supplies and part of convention expenses, which brings down our Balance as will be noted as a balance in 1944, June 30, \$66,095.97



## OFFICIAL REPORT OF SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE LEO. F. LUCAS

As this is my first report since I returned from Washington D. C., I'll try to bring you up to date on my past and present work.

William Green needed a liaison officer to O. P. A. and he requested Brother Ed Kaiser to loan me to Chester Bowles so I could represent A. F. of L. on his staff.

I worked three years in Washington, D. C.—working with all A. F. of L. Unions in the forty-eight (48) states. In that time I had quite a few requests from the Stove Mounters International Union for help in O. P. A. work. Also other Government Agencies, and I always tried to be of some help to the organization.

As you know, O. P. A. was one of the greatest things that could be of help to the working people, but after the present Congress was elected they voted it out. So, on February 1st I resigned and came back as your representative. I am a member of Local 20, Louisville, Ky.

Edgar Whitfield and I organized the Eisenhower Plant Local 130 and got a good contract. I have worked with Brother Grubbs and Russ O'Neal all over the south on contracts, helped Local 75 at Baltimore, Md., and worked on anti-labor legislation in Washington, D. C.

At the present time I am trying to save Local 14 at Lewisburg, Tenn., from the C. I. O. As you all know, the present anti-labor law of Tennessee prohibits one from asking or receiving a Union Security Clause, making our work that much harder.

The Convention will be held next month in Michigan and I hope that all Locals will send their number of Delegates, so as to take care of their business. It is most important that all of us wake up and take part in all elections in City, State, and Federal or we will soon be back where we started from.

In closing, I would like to pin a few orchids on our President and Secre-

tary, and Assistant Secretary. As you know, I traveled in forty-eight states and met quite a few International Presidents, Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries—but I want to say I never met a more efficient group than ours in the Saint Louis office.

Yours for a better and bigger International Union.

LEO F. LUCAS,  
Special Representative  
2401 West Main  
Louisville, Ky.



## OFFICIAL REPORT OF SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE JOHN D. ROBERTS

Resume in brief for Convention since May 23, 1945, time of my appointment to position of Special Representative. My first assignment was in Seattle, Washington, at the Lang Stove Company in reference to Sheet Metal Union taking our people over. I found that every employee but four had made out applications with the Sheet Metal Union, known in that district as Assortment Workers. Had several meetings with all the people. They felt they could get better representation in the Sheet Metal Union as there was no Stove Mounter Representative in that district. Results were they all went into the Assortment Workers Union.

My next assignment was in Los Angeles, California, to take over Bro. Petro's district while he was in the Armed Forces. While there participated in several disputes, organized Gaffer Sattler Stove Co., Local 123. Organized and established a charter for O'keefe & Merrit Stove Co., Local 125, which was finished up by Vice-Pres. Bro. Petro on his return to our ranks.

In my own district I re-organized the Ferro and Payne Mahoney Enamel Plants, Local 83. Also Hammer Bray Stove Co., Local 109.

During my stay in Los Angeles Local 65, Wessix Heater Company joined the ranks of the Machinist Union.

The Frazer Furnace Company of Stockton, California, Local 69. This fight has been pending in this shop since 1940. On April 2, 1946, I petitioned the N. L. R. B. for an election. They did not give us an election until almost a year later. Results of the delay after having a tie vote we lost the election in the run off vote.

Was called to Everett, Washington, to help with negotiations of Agreement, which was settled satisfactorily. Petitioned the N. L. R. B. there for an election in Pacific Stove & Foundry Company. We lost this election to Local 99 of Sheet Metal Workers. Practically all of those people were members of Local 99.

Re-organized the Occidental Stove Company of Irvington, California, Local 62. We are now in negotiations in their first Agreement with us.

Started negotiations in January with the Wedgewood Stove Company of Newark, California. Had several meetings and finally negotiations broke off and we had a recession of work for twelve weeks. With the assistance of Vice-Pres. Bro. Petro we have arrived at a satisfactory settlement.

We have been in negotiations with the Spark Stove Company of Oakland, California, since January, 1947. We have agreed on Wages, Holidays, and Vacations. The only remaining issue is Shop Condition.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN D. ROBERTS,  
Special Representative

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE JAMES F. GRUBBS

### FIRST QUARTER, 1946

I was discharged from the U. S. Naval Service November 9, 1945. After taking a few weeks rest I reported to President Lewis for assignment.

Leaving St. Louis, I went to Huntington, W. Va., where I spent several weeks working with the A. F. Thompson Manufacturing Company and the Armstrong Product Company. While in Huntington I worked with Mr. Frank Smith, A. F. of L. organizer and Mr. Milton Rynal and had the assistance of the Organizing committee from the C. L. U. in Huntington.

Leaving Huntington, going to Nashville, Tenn., for the purpose of assisting Vice-Pres. O'Neal with Local 53, Tennessee Enamel on strike, getting a settlement there and going to South Pittsburg, Tenn., and negotiated a contract for Local 56, with the United States Stove Company. Going to Rome, Ga., where Local 58 was on strike, negotiated contract for 58 with the Eagle Stove Company getting the local back to work.

While in Rome I organized the employees of the Standard Stove and Range Company and signed contract for the new local 111.

### SECOND QUARTER, 1946

Going to Waynesburgh, Va., Bristol and Clevand, Tenn., for the purpose of checking on the shops in that area and found that part of the shops were out of business and part were on re-conversion and were not working on stoves. Leaving Clevland and going to Nashville I signed contract for Local 80, Allen Manufacturing Company.

Leaving Nashville, Tenn., I went to Dallas, Texas, where I organized the employees of the McMath-Axilrod Enamel Company and signed a closed shop agreement for Local 103. Leaving Texas and going to Chattanooga, Tenn., I signed contract for Local 37, American Mfg. Company.

### THIRD QUARTER, 1946

Going to Rome, Ga., where I took up grievances for Locals 111 and 58. Leaving Rome I went to Gadsden, Ala., where I took up grievance for Local 13. Going to Chattanooga, Tenn., where I assisted Vice-Pres. O'Neal in re-organizing the Samuel Enamel Company and also worked on the Tennessee Stove Wks. and the Venetian Blind Company.

I met with Mr. Jno. R. Lalleman, B. A. for the Machinists, in regard to the Machinists trying to take our membership at the Marshall Stove Company, Lewisburg, Tenn. I was assigned to the Marshall Stove for the purpose of re-organizing Local 14 and spent a good bit of my time in there.

### FOURTH QUARTER, 1946

Leaving Lewisburg, Tenn., and going to Dallas, Texas, where I assisted Local 103 in getting adjustment in rates that the Company had overlooked. While in Dallas I visited the Dearborn Stove and the Texilite Enamel Company who are at present represented by the C. I. O. Steel Workers. Leaving Dallas going to Nashville I signed contract for Local 75, Gray-Dudley Stove Company, and took care of grievance for Local 80. Going to Chattanooga, Tenn., where I worked several days with Vice-Pres. O'Neal on the Tennessee Stove Plant in effort to organize the plant. Going to Rome, Ga., where Local 111 was on strike, getting this settled and going to Nashville, Tenn., I took up grievances for Locals 53, 75, 80 and attended meetings of the various locals.

I attended the S. W. D. C. B. meeting in St. Louis at the Mark Twain

Hotel and visited the American Stove Company Plant while in St. Louis.

Leaving St. Louis and going to South Pittsburg, Tenn., I assisted Local 56 in drawing up new contract. Going to Richmond, Va., where Local 115 was on strike for more money, getting this settled in the local's favor and going to Nashville and visited the various locals and took care of several grievances.

#### FIRST QUARTER, 1947

I signed wage agreement for Local 80, Nashville, Tenn., also wage agreement for Local 56, South Pittsburg, Tenn. Took care of grievances for 53, 75, 80 in Nashville and 13, Gadsden, Ala., 56, South Pittsburg, Tenn., 22, Atlanta, Ga., 14, Lewisburg, Tenn.

I attended the N. L. R. B. hearing at the American Manufacturing Company where the Machinists were trying to take over part of our membership.

I assisted Special Representative Leo F. Lucas and Vice-Pres. O'Neal pass out hand-bills at the Vultee Aircraft in Nashville and going to Chattanooga where we checked on the International Harvester Company and found that the employees had an Independent Union in the plant.

#### SECOND QUARTER, 1947

I went to Dallas, Texas, and took care of grievance for Local 103 and assisted them in getting their books in order and install new officers. Leaving Dallas and going to Nashville I took care of grievance for Locals 53 and 80. Going to Lewisburg, Tenn., and met several times with Local 14 and worked with the Committee getting their new Contract in order. Leaving Lewisburg and going to Gadsden, Ala., I signed contract for Local 17 and visited Local 13 on strike.

Leaving Gadsden, Ala., and going to Richmond, Va., where I signed contract for Local 115, with the Southern Stove Wks.

I have taken care of all grievances in my locals, attended all S. E. D. C. B. meetings as well as all Executive meetings and attended local meetings when it was convenient for me to do so.

As this writing goes to press I am leaving for Dallas, Texas, for the purpose of negotiating contract for Local 103.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES F. GRUBBS,  
Special Representative



#### OFFICIAL REPORT OF

#### SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE JAMES M. ROBERTS

On Feb. 3rd, 1947, I started to work for the Stove Mounters' International Union as Special Representative. Immediately I was confronted with the strike of Local #52 of East St. Louis, Ill., against the Auto Stove Wks. of National City and New Athens, Ill.

After going through negotiations and tentatively agreeing on the 1947 agreement, the Company refused to sign our agreement. The company wanted to sign the agreement covering only the National City plant. We had in previous years since 1937 signed our agreements covering both the National City and New Athens plants. Due to a fire that destroyed one half of the plant at National City, the company had been notified to vacate the part of

the building they were then using. Knowing this, and that they were going to move to their plant at New Athens, Ill., the company refused to sign our contract, thus trying to destroy our bargaining unit and throwing approximately fifty employees of ours out of work.

On Feb. 6, 1947, Local #52 went on strike and have remained there since. Under the protection of an injunction, which the company was able to get against us the Moulder members of Local #327 at New Athens have been steadily crossing our limited picket lines.

We have filed unfair labor practices against the Auto Stove Wks. with the N. L. R. B. and our case is due to come to a hearing soon.

I have spent considerable time on this case when it was possible for me to do so as it is very important, not only to Local #52, but to our organization as well. The moulder union has openly stated, that they were going to take our members when ever and where ever they can.

This I feel is more or less a start and we are determined that this is not going to happen.

I have been more or less dividing most of my time between this case and the Borg Warner Corp. (Norge Division) negotiations at Effingham, Ill. We won the election at this plant Feb. 17th, 1947, over district 50 of the U. M. W. of A. by a large majority and started negotiating Mar. 24th, 1947.

Negotiations were rather lengthy due to the fact that District 50 failed to get these people the increase last year that they were entitled to. I am happy to say in this report that we have now completed negotiations, getting all the employees of the Borg Warner Corp. a 15c per hour increase in wages, liberalized vacations, an increase in call in pay, increased night shift premiums, paid accident clause, and retroactive pay to April 21, 1947.

Although we who have been doing the negotiating did not receive as much as we wanted in regards to an increase for these people, we put the proposition to the membership of Local 105 at Effingham, and the local voted that each and every employee in the bargaining unit should vote by secret ballot in the plant to accept or reject the proposition. This was done and the employees voted 802 to accept and 75 to reject.

Winning this plant and getting it under an agreement has been a great achievement by our organization. It took months of hard work to put it over. Too much credit cannot be given our International President, Joseph Lewis, and our International Vice-President, John F. Green, for the hard work they have done, both in winning the election and in negotiations.

This plant employs approximately 1000 employees. Our Local 105 at Effingham has elected a fine set of officers, and with their guidance this local should grow by leaps and bounds.

In between the Auto Stove Wks. case and the Borg Warner case I have been taking up grievances and visiting various Locals in Illinois and St. Louis, Mo. Among these were Locals 4 and 60 of Belleville, Ill., 52 and 24 of East St. Louis, 34, 86, 107, 126, 100 and 11 of St. Louis, Mo.

And now I want to say a few words to the delegates of this most important convention. I know that there will be many changes made, I know that the delegates to this convention want to see their organization grow, there are many plants in this country that can and should be organized. I know that the delegates want to see their organization protected from infiltration by rival organizations. I also know that our officers have had a tough time making ends meet, due to the increase in the cost of living, for when one has to travel and compete with other organizers of other unions it proves very costly. Now in view of all this I hope the delegates to this 27th Convention of the Stove Mounters International Union see fit to put more money into our international

treasury so that we can do the job expected of us, and can compete on at least an equal basis with our competition in the labor market.

Fraternally yours,

JAMES M. ROBERTS,

Special Representative



## OFFICIAL REPORT OF

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY EDWIN F. KAISER

#### CONVENTION REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to write this report of my activities during the past three years, as most of the Brothers and Sisters know I have been with the International office, acting as Assistant Secretary for the past 10 years, during the past three years, I also acted in the capacity of acting Special Representative for the organization, where most of my evenings are spent in organizing work, drawing up contracts, attending meetings of our newly organized locals, and assisting in general in what ever may be assigned for me to do. We have made great strides in our endeavors to organize the unorganized, and we have been successful in forming many new locals, in some cases it took more work and many hours spent than one may think, organizing is not an easy job, and anyone having any experience along the line of organizing will vouch for this; sometimes you have great success, and other times things happen that are very discouraging. I might add that most of our programs have been successful as our records will show, it takes great time and patience to raise a local within a shop that has never been affiliated with organized labor.

I have seen during my service with the International in the past years, a great many changes taking place. I knew what position the International was in financially, and funds on which we had to operate, and just what our aspects to organizing new shops were, we had to do this work on a slim basis, but since the past three years with the election of our President Joseph Lewis which was a God send to our Int'l. Gen'l. Secy.-Treas. for the burden which he had always carried was being help carried by our President, J. Lewis, who knew and thought along the lines as we, and that we must build a stronger organization to strengthen our cause, and I believe I can truthfully say the past three years have proven this, with the fine assistance of our Executive Board, Special Representatives, we have gone a long way and will continue to travel and think in the best interest of the Stove Mounters International Union of N. A.

Fraternally submitted,

EDWIN F. KAISER,

Asst. Secy.

# Western Union Telegrams

Z391 PD 2 Extra—TU Atlanta Ga 16 422P

1947 Jul 16 PM 6 30

Ed W. Kaiser,

General Secretary-Treasurer—Stove Mounters

International Union Convention Headquarters

Sincerely regret my inability to attend your convention due to many urgent situations in the South. Congratulations to you and your membership for the fine work in this territory and wish for you a most successful convention.

GEORGE L. GOODE, Southern Representative,  
American Federation of Labor.

Z86 PD—St. Louis, Mo. 15 830A

1947 Jul 15 AM 10 24

Edward W. Kaiser, Secy.-Treas. Stove Mounters Intl. Union  
of North America, Care Burdick Hotel

With every good wish for a most successful convention.

International Brotherhood Foundry and Metal Employees  
Adanenberg.

ZA45 8 NL PD—BM Washington DC 14

1947 Jul 14 PM 8 00

Edward W. Kaiser

Sec.-Treas. Stove Mounters Intl. Union of North America  
Hotel Burdick

I extend to officers and delegates in attendance at convention Stove Mounters International Union of North America fraternal greetings and best wishes for a succesful convention. Regret my engagements and work are such as to prevent me from meeting with you. The fight which Labor made to prevent the passage of the notorious Taft-Hartley bill must now be continued until we secure its repeal and defeat of members of Congress who voted for it. I sincerely hope your convention will pledge itself to carry out this purpose and policy. Please rely upon continued support and cooperation of American Federation of Labor in all your work and in administration of affairs of your International Union.

WILLIAM GREEN, President, A. F. of L.

## ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DELEGATES

Joseph Lewis, President	Local No. 24 East St. Louis, Ill.
John Green, Vice-President	Jeff Curtis
Willard Fogleson, Vice-President	Al. Sadger
Raymond Levingston, Vice-President	Henry Bergler
Russell O'Neal, Vice-President	Local No. 30 Chattanooga, Tenn.
Kenneth Petro, Vice-President	Roy Jordan
James F. Grubbs, Special Representative	Parks H. Conley
James Roberts, Special Representative	Local No. 31 Chattanooga, Tenn.
John Roberts, Special Representative	L. M. Johnson
Leo F. Lucas, Special Representative	Local No. 32 Kankakee, Ill.
Edgar Whitefield, Special Representative	Francis Genotte
Mike Moses, Special Representative	Francis Foryce
Barter Allen, Special Representative	Earl O'Connell
Edw. W. Kaiser, Secretary-Treasurer	Peter Marnell
Edw. F. Kaiser, Asst. Sec. & Special Rep.	Local No. 34 St. Louis, Mo.
Local No. 3, Quincy, Ill.	Eugene Ehrhard
Allen Van Valkenberg	William Schlesser
Albert Pfaffe	Local No. 36 Shelbyville, Ind.
Local No. 4 Belleville, Ill.	Stanley Gordon
Peter Hemmer	Russell Itc
Herbert Schmidt	Local No. 37 Chattanooga, Tenn.
Bernard Bauer	Charles E. Adams
George Badgley	Local No. 40 Taunton, Mass.
Arthur Hale	Jos. N. Elias
Al Schaefer	Local No. 50 Baltimore, Md.
Ray Bauer	John Gibson
Arthur Mank	Wayne Wagner
John Thompson	Local No. 52 East St. Louis, Ill.
Thomas Bann	J. H. Simpson
Lee Dawson	Local No. 53 Nashville, Tenn.
Fred Keller	Chas. Sayley
Local No. 5 Albion, Mich.	James Ellis
Estta Stancroff	Local No. 54 Los Angeles, Calif.
Iva Yargar	Melvin J. Booker
Local No. 9 Quincy Ill.	Local No. 56 So. Pittsburg, Tenn.
Wm. Logan	Oscar Boyd
Local No. 11 St. Louis, Mo.	Local No. 57 Kokomo, Ind.
George Stiffler	John Pierce
Local No. 16 Newark, Ohio	James Johnston
Dwight Johnson	Local No. 60 Belleville, Ill.
Raymond O'Brien	Edwin Kabureck
Edgar Taylor	Trevor Adams
Local No. 17 Gadsden, Ala.	Eugene Mueller
O. J. Ervin	Herman Lauf
Local No. 20 Louisville, Ky.	Raymond Mueller
James Smith	Melvin Chadderton
Local No. 21 Louisville, Ky.	Arthur Schmidt
Charles Whitfield	Local No. 61 Newark, Calif.
	Harry Rose
	Local No. 67 Albion, Mich.
	Rose Marie Sweetland
	Stan Porter

Samuel Keller  
 Theo. Greenman  
 Dorothy Sutton  
 Jack Bradshaw  
 Marvel Miller  
 William Howard  
 Ned Heiney  
**Local No. 68 Los Angeles, Calif.**  
 W. E. Reckewey  
 Chas. Ely  
 Elmer Fleckenstein  
**Local No. 74 Kalamazoo, Mich.**  
 Clarence Saunders  
 Harold Cleveland  
 George Reis  
 H. N. Bowman  
 James Baker  
 Frank Grimshaw  
 Frank Cooper  
 Nelson Willis  
 William Fogleson  
 Charles Miller  
 Clarence Reis  
**Local No. 75 Nashville**  
 J. R. Sullivan  
**Local No. 76 Owosso, Mich.**  
 Theo. Rubelman  
 Floyd L. Smith  
 Elmo White  
**Local No. 79 Battle Creek, Mich.**  
 Walter S. Porter  
 Ralph Geesen  
 Eugene Kelley  
 John Porter  
 Clarence Beaudoin  
**Local No. 80 Nashville, Tenn.**  
 Sam Craus  
**Local No. 86 St. Louis, Mo.**  
 Arthur Moran  
**Local No. 88 Maywood, Calif.**  
 Wilfred Greenwell  
**Local No. 90 Battle Creek, Mich.**  
 Homer Banks  
 Kenneth Ford  
 Clarence Russell  
 Joseph F. Galarda  
 Thomas L. Smith  
**Local No. 91 Kalamazoo, Mich.**  
 Ernest L. Moughton  
 Ed. Woodhams  
 Harold Hamilton  
 Zeda Little  
 Al. Buckholz  
**Local No. 94 Springfield, Ill.**  
 Wm. Lutz  
**Local No. 96 St. Louis, Mo.**  
 Joseph Metzger

Jacob Segidin  
 John Guelker  
 Eugene Hagen  
 Fred Fuchs  
**Local No. 98 Geneva, N. Y.**  
 Michael Moses  
 Fred Laun Jr.  
**Local No. 100 St. Louis, Mo.**  
 Joseph Walczyk  
**Local No. 105 Effingham, Ill.**  
 Edw. J. Worman  
 James F. Reynolds  
**Local No. 106 Los Angeles, Calif.**  
 Thomas J. Lee  
**Local No. 107 St. Louis, Mo.**  
 George Norbitt  
**Local No. 108 St. Louis, Mo.**  
 Gilbert Ruwe  
**Local No. 110 St. Louis, Mo.**  
 Carl Dickey  
**Local No. 123 Maywood, Calif.**  
 Wm. G. Starkey  
**Local No. 125 Los Angeles, Calif.**  
 John de Hart  
**Local No. 126 St. Louis, Mo.**  
 Morris Sheeks  
 Locals not shown listed, have sent no delegates.  
 Edw. W. Kaiser, Sec.-Treas.

**Credentials Committee**  
 Hebert Schmidt Local No. 4—Chairman  
 Iva Yargar Local No. 5  
 Raymond O'Brien Local No. 16  
 O. J. Ervin Local No. 17  
 Henry Bergler Local No. 24  
 Francis Forcye Local No. 32  
 Stanley Gordon Local No. 36  
 John Gibson Local No. 50  
 James Johnston Local No. 57  
 Melvin Chadderton Local No. 60  
 Thoma Lee Local No. 106  
 C. E. Adams Local No. 37

**Officers Report Committee**  
 Michael Moses Local 98—Chairman  
 Stan Porter Local 67  
 James Ellis Local 53  
 Harold Hamilton Local 91  
 Morris Sheeks Local 126  
 William Fogelson Local 74  
 Allan Van Velkingburg Local 3  
 J. R. Sullivan Local 75  
 Jacob Segidin Local 96  
 Arthur Moran Local 86  
 Fred Keller Local 4  
 John E. DeHart Local 125

Herman Lauf Local 60

Edward J. Worman Local 105

George Norbitt Local 107

**Constitution Committee**

Arthur Hale Local 4

Russell Itc Local 36

Peter Marnell Local 32

Wayne Wagner Local 50

Edwin Kabureck Local 60

James Baker Local 74—Chairman

Clarence Russell Local 90

John Guelker Local 96

John Porter Local 79

Harry Rose Local 61

William Logan Local 9

Ernest L. Moughton Local 91

Parks H. Conley Local 30

Jack Bradshaw Local 67

Oscar Boyd Local 56

Elmer Fleckenstein Local 68

Carl Dickey Local 110

**Resolution Committee**

George Badgley Local 4—Chairman

Edgar Taylor Local 16

Charles Whitfield Local 21

Francis Genotte Local 32

Eugene Ehrhard Local 34

Melvin J. Booker Local 54

Eugene Mueller Local 60

Charles Ely Local 68

Frank Cooper Local 74

Floyd Smith Local 76

Clarence Beaudoin Local 79

Eugene Hagen Local 96

James Reynolds Local 105

Jos. F. Galarda Local 90

William Howard Local 67

Sam Cross Local 80

Joe Elias Local 40

**Union Label Committee**

Esta Stancroff Local 5—Chairman

Thomas Bann Local 4

James Smith Local 20

Jack O'Connell Local 32

George Reis Local 74

Wilfred Greenwell Local 88

Thomas Smith Local 90

L. N. Johnson Local 31

William H. Lutz Local 94

**Rules Committee**

H. N. Bowman Local 74—Chairman

Peter Hemmer Local 4

Trevor Adams Local 60

William G. Starkey Local 126

Homer Banks Local 90

Charles Savley Local 57

George Stiffler Local 11

**Committee on Organizing**

Lee Dawson Local 4

Joe Metzger Local 96

Ralph Gleason Local 79

Nelson Willis Local 74

Jeff. Curtis Local 67

Kenneth Ford Local 90—Chairman

Gilbert Ruwe Local 108

Roy Jordan Local 30

Jos. Walczyk Local 100

Zeda Little Local 91

**Committee on Jurisdiction**

J. H. Simpson Local 52

William Schlesser Local 34

Elmo White Local 76

Dwight Johnson Local 16

Frank Grimshaw Local 74

Arthur Mank Local 4

W. E. Reckewey Local 68—Chairman



**RESOLUTION No. 1**

Whereas the weekly system of collecting dues is obsolete, and Whereas a monthly system of collecting dues would be much cheaper. Therefore be it resolved that a committee of the International Executive Board be appointed to devise some means of a monthly due stamp.

Adopted

S. M. I. U. Local No. 4  
Belleville, Ill.

PETER HEMMER

**RESOLUTION No. 2**

Whereas the apprentice ratio was changed during the depression, when many mounters were out of work, from 1 apprentice to 8 mounters, to 1 apprentice to every 21 mounters, and whereas the situation is now changed, and mounters are not available. Therefore be it resolved that the ratio be changed to 1 apprentice to every 8 journeymen mounters until the situation again changes, and that the International Executive Board be granted the power to increase the ratio whenever they see fit. until the next convention is held.

Adopted

S. M. I. U. Local No. 4  
Belleville, Ill.

PETER HEMMER

**RESOLUTION No. 3**

Whereas Article 15, Sec. 3 reads that \$2.00 must be paid to the International from every initiation and, Whereas Locals collect from \$10.00 to \$25.00 for initiation fees. Therefore be it resolved that Sec. 3 of Article 15, be changed to \$5.00 instead of \$2.00, and all moneys collected by the International from initiation fees go in the general fund for organization purposes.

Not Adopted

S. M. I. U. Local No. 4  
Belleville, Ill.

PETER HEMMER

**RESOLUTION No. 4**

Whereas the membership has increased to a great extent. Therefore be it resolved that Article 14, Sec. 1, be changed to read in the event the death fund is shown to contain \$60,000.00, then any amount above shall go into the General Fund.

NOT ADOPTED AS WRITTEN

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION LISTED BELOW — ADOPTED

The Committee recommends that the Executive Board be instructed to work setting up the insurance on actuary basis and that the general fund shall be provided for separately from the death benefit fund.

S. M. I. U. Local No. 4  
Belleville, Ill.

PETER HEMMER

**RESOLUTION No. 5**

WHEREAS, it was necessary to levy an annual Death Benefit Assessment of one dollar (\$1.00) per member during the crisis created by World War II for the purpose of maintaining in good standing in the Stove Mounters' International Union of North America such of the members thereof, who entered the armed services of the United States of America, and WHEREAS, the war crisis hereinbefore mentioned no longer exists, and WHEREAS, the number of such members, who are at present in the Country's postwar armed services due to the operation of the Selective Service Act, has been greatly diminished so as to have almost reached the vanishing point, and WHEREAS, the annual assessment for the purpose hereinbefore mentioned

has become an unnecessary and indefensible burden upon the membership as a whole, be it

THEREFORE RESOLVED, that this convention go on record as opposed to and abolishing such assessment for the specific purpose as hereinbefore mentioned after the present year, and be it

THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED, that if this convention deems it necessary, for the purpose of obtaining necessary revenue to administer the affairs of the Stove Mounters' International Union of North America, to continue in force an annual one dollar (\$1.00) assessment per member, that such new annual assessment be properly named and titled, so as truthfully and fully to state the exact purpose for which such levy is to be instated.

#### RESOLUTION AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

All Locals shall have a uniform procedure and collect from new members for the calendar year of his membership.

Adopted

JAKE SEGEDIN  
JOHN GUELKER  
EUGENE HAGEN  
JOSEPH METZGER  
FRED FUCHS

S. M. I. U. Local No. 96  
Saint Louis, Missouri

#### RESOLUTION No. 6

WHEREAS, Section 10 of Article XIX of the Constitution of the Stove Mounters' International Union of North America has been subjected to misinterpretation and consequent abuse by some employing companies, and WHEREAS, such misinterpretation and consequent abuse thereof of the section of the article hereinbefore mentioned have worked a severe hardship upon the shop committee of our local union, and other local unions, be it THEREFORE RESOLVED, that this convention order the following addition be made at the end of Section 10 of Article XIX of the Constitution. Namely:

"and it shall be strictly understood that any such work whatever shall be for the purpose of instructing inexperienced workers, or for the purpose of meeting an emergency, mutually recognized as such by the union and management."

#### RESOLUTION AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

that such work be held at a minimum.

Adopted

JAKE SEGEDIN  
JOHN GUELKER  
EUGENE HAGEN  
JOSEPH METZGER  
FRED FUCHS

S. M. I. U. Local No. 96  
Saint Louis, Missouri

#### RESOLUTION No. 21

Whereas, the weekly due stamp creates a hardship and extra expense on the International Union and Local Unions, therefore be it

Resolved, that Article 14, Section 1, of the Constitution be changed to read as follows: "The revenue of this organization shall be derived as follows: Each subordinate local shall pay into the treasury of the International Union the sum of \$2.25 per month per capita on members paying \$3.00 dues per month; the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per month on members paying two dollars (\$2.00) dues per month; the sum of seventy-five cents (\$0.75) per month per capita on members paying one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) dues per month; three dollars (\$3.00) dues paying members may pay to keep up their beneficiary cards by paying into the Local, one dollar (\$1.00) per month for such a stamp issued by the International Union at one dollar (\$1.00) per stamp per capita while not actually employed at the trade;

two dollars (\$2.00) dues paying members may pay to keep up their beneficiary cards by paying into the Local seventy-five cents (\$0.75) per month per stamp per capita while not actually employed at the trade; one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) dues paying members may keep their beneficiary cards by paying into the Local forty-five (\$0.45) per month per capita while not actually employed at the trade. Be it further

Resolved, that Article 15, Section 6, Article 17, Section 3, Article 18, Section 7, Article 19, Section 16, be changed to conform to Article 14."

Resolutions No. 7-19-21-22-23 grouped and Resolution No. 21 adopted with the following words added:

Beneficiary Honorary dues shall remain at the present rate pending the actuarial survey in accordance with instructions of the Convention and shall only be changed on this basis.

#### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AS AMENDED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 60  
Belleville, Illinois

EDWIN KABURECK  
MELVIN CHADDERTON  
ROY MUELLER

#### RESOLUTION No. 7

WHEREAS, the wage level of stove workers in the United States has risen steadily since the last Convention of the Stove Mounters' International Union of North America, held in Quincy, Illinois, in 1944 and

WHEREAS, the general wage levels of the entire working population of the country have risen sharply with living costs since the aforementioned convention, and

WHEREAS, the salaries and allowances of the International officers and special representatives have not likewise advanced with the general rise in the country's wage levels and living costs since the aforementioned convention, and WHEREAS, such International officers and special representatives receive their fixed salaries and allowances as determined principally by the general revenue derived from the system of fixed membership dues stamps legally in force in the three brackets of twenty-five cents (25c) per week, forty cents (40c) per week, and sixty cents (60c) per week, and

WHEREAS, the revenue derived principally from the present system of fixed membership dues stamp brackets as hereinbefore cited has proven inadequate for the purpose of granting an increase in the salaries and allowances of the International officers and special representatives, be it

THEREFORE RESOLVED, that henceforth one dues stamp per month be issued to each member, instead of one per week as heretofore, and the following new dues stamp brackets be set up and applied to replace the present system. Namely:

1st bracket—one \$1.50 dues stamp per month. International to get \$0.75.  
2nd bracket—one \$2.00 dues stamp per month. International to get \$1.25.  
3rd bracket—one \$3.00 dues stamp per month. International to get \$2.25.  
In each case the Local gets \$0.75.

S. M. I. U. Local No. 96  
Saint Louis, Missouri

JAKE SEGEDIN  
JOHN GUELKER  
EUGENE HAGEN  
JOSEPH METZGER  
FRED FUCHS

#### RESOLUTION No. 19

##### REVENUE—PAGE 1

Whereas, the present revenue is not sufficient to take care of the needs of the International, and  
Whereas, funds will be needed for the welfare and betterment of the Organization; therefore, be it

Resolved, that Article Fourteen, Section One, be amended to read as follows: Each subordinate local shall pay into the Treasury of the International Union the sum of \$2.44 per capita per month on members paying \$3.25 per month; the sum of \$1.87 per capita per month on members paying \$2.50 per month; the sum of \$1.50 per capita per month on members paying \$2.00 per month. \$3.25 dues paying members may pay to keep up their beneficiary by paying into the local 80 cents per month for such a stamp issued by the International while not actually employed at the trade. \$2.50 dues paying members may keep up their beneficiary by paying into the local 60 cents per month while not actually employed at the trade. \$2.00 dues paying members may keep up their beneficiary cards by paying into the local the sum of 30 cents per month while not actually employed at the trade.

All monies under beneficiary dues classification shall go into the death fund; that the death fund be maintained at \$30,000.00 at all times; that 49% of the active due stamp monies go into the general fund, and 51% of the active due stamp monies be placed into the Strike Fund, also all reinstatement and initiation fees go into the Strike Fund. In event the death fund is shown to contain \$30,000.00, then the amount over shall go into the General Fund, as will all monies received other than assessments and special assessments and returns from locals on unclaimed strike funds and unclaimed other funds.

All per capita tax for stamps and supplies issued during the quarter ending payable on or before the tenth of January, April, July and October to be applied as above.

The total amount of the death benefit to be paid same shall be governed by sections of the Constitution applying to the same.

Northern District Council of Stove

Mounters' Int. Union of N. A.

Battle Creek, Michigan

KENNETH L. FORD,  
Secretary-Treasurer.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

## RESOLUTION No. 20

### CHARTERS AND FEES

#### Article XV

Whereas, in changing to the monthly due stamp it will be necessary to change Section Six; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That Section Six of Article XV be amended to read: The rate of dues shall be as follows: Any member paying \$3.25 per month dues shall be entitled to the regular \$500.00 death benefit. Any member paying \$2.50 dues per month shall be entitled to the sum of \$250.00 death benefit provided he is in good standing according to the laws governing death benefits. Any member now paying less than \$2.50 dues per month will be permitted to increase his dues to \$2.50, which shall be the maximum dues per month. This shall not affect members paying \$3.25 per month. Members upon application may designate the rate of dues they desire to pay.

Northern District Council of Stove

Mounters' Int. Union of N. A.

Battle Creek, Michigan

KENNETH L. FORD,  
Secretary-Treasurer.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

## RESOLUTION No. 33

Delegate Harry Rose

Local No. 61, Newark, California

Amend Article XIV, Section 1, to read as follows:

WHEREAS, we believe that all members of the Stove Mounters' International Union are at present receiving a fair day's pay, and so that both our International Union and the subordinate locals may derive a larger per capita from the dues-paying members in order to carry out their obligations, we feel that the weekly dues should be raised. That we have just two classifications of due stamps.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That both the forty cents (40c), and the twenty-five cents (25c) dues paying members be raised to fifty cents (50c) per week, and the sixty cents dues paying members be raised to seventy cents (70c) per week.

S. M. I. U. Local No. 61  
Newark, Calif.

HARRY ROSE

### RESOLUTION No. 8

Whereas, any active member of the Union who is also a supervisor or foreman is quite frequently in an embarrassing position in the discharge of his duties, and

Whereas, the members of his particular local quite frequently handicapped in their negotiations with the firm for which they work because of this particular type of condition, and

Whereas, it is not fair that this condition should prevail,

Therefore be it resolved, that upon the promotion of any member of the Union to a supervisory position he automatically receive a B. H. card,

Be it further resolved, that the member at the time of his promotion has his seniority frozen as of the date of the promotion. He is to accumulate no more seniority until such time as his card becomes active again.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 57  
Kokomo, Ind.

HARRY WHITED

JAMES T. JOHNSTON

### RESOLUTION No. 9

Whereas, the whole labor movement is going to have more and more friends among other professions, and

Whereas, the best place to start goodwill is during the formative years of the people that might give labor organizations the aid they are sure to need in the future, and

Whereas, the publicity alone will have a beneficial reaction among the general public,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Stove Mounters' International Union of North America sponsor a scholarship for any young man or woman who qualifies through competitive writing of a thesis on Unionism,

Be it further resolved, that this programme is followed through until such time as it is no longer feasible for this organization to sponsor such a programme,

Be it further resolved, that the competitors be selected on a nation-wide scale.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 57  
Kokomo, Ind.

HARRY WHITED

JAMES T. JOHNSTON

### RESOLUTION No. 10

Whereas, the practice of having the Stove Mounters' International Union sponsor a Union Label Fund seems unfair without the cooperation of the Federation of Labor bearing its share of the expense, and

Whereas, this fund has been used for other purposes than was originally intended, and

Whereas, switching the use of funds for other purposes than originally planned, no matter how worthy the cause, seems to be a loose way of doing business.

Therefore be it resolved, that unless the American Federation of Labor sponsor half of the expense of such a programme that this fund be discontinued.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 57  
Kokomo, Ind.

HARRY WHITED  
JAMES T. JOHNSTON

### RESOLUTION No. 11

Whereas, all business is regulated by State or Federal laws concerning the manner in which business is conducted, and

Whereas, all business at regular stated intervals must according to these laws be audited in a manner prescribed, and

Whereas Union organizations apparently are going to, in the near future, have their business regulated in much the same manner, and

Whereas, it behooves the Union to anticipate this trend,

Therefore be it resolved, that the Stove Mounters' International Union have its books audited at least once a year by a Certified Public Accountant.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 57  
Kokomo, Ind.

HARRY WHITED  
JAMES T. JOHNSTON

### RESOLUTION No. 12

Whereas, there has been no programme to indoctrinate members as to the aims, ideology and the purpose of Unionism, and

Whereas, the ranks of labor is swollen as never before because of the peculiar times in which we are going through, and

Whereas, many of these new members feel that to belong to a Union is merely a way of buying a job,

Therefore be it resolved, that the Stove Mounters' Union of N. A. institute an educational programme to correct this condition.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 57  
Kokomo, Ind.

HARRY WHITED  
JAMES T. JOHNSTON

### RESOLUTION No. 14

#### DUE STAMP CHANGE

Whereas, the use of the weekly Due Stamp entails a lot of work and expense for the Local and International Secretaries, and

Whereas, it is the intent of the Northern District Council to inaugurate a monthly due stamp, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the weekly due stamp be abolished and a monthly due stamp be issued.

Resolutions Nos. 13-14-15 grouped and Resolution No. 14 adopted for the whole.

Northern District Council of Stove  
Mounters' Int. Union of N. A.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

KENNETH L. FORD,  
Secretary-Treasurer.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

### RESOLUTION No. 13

Resolution submitted to Stove Mounters' International Union by Local No. 36, Shelbyville, Indiana.

WHEREAS—The Constitution and By-Law of the Stove Mounters' Inter-

national Union provides for a weekly dues stamp, and

WHEREAS—This situation creates undue work and time of the Financial Secretary;

Therefore be it resolved—That the delegates from Local 36, Shelbyville, Indiana, be instructed to present this resolution to the Stove Mounters' International Unions' National Convention, requesting the Constitution to be amended so members will pay their dues by a monthly stamp in place of the now existing weekly dues stamp.

S. M. I. U. Local No. 36  
Shelbyville, Indiana

Respectfully submitted,

Resolution Committee,

RUSSELL ITCE

STANLEY GORDON

## RESOLUTION No. 15

### DUE STAMP BOOKS

Whereas, having the weekly dues changed to monthly dues it will be necessary to change the due books; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the monthly due book be made as follows, page to contain five spaces vertically and marked horizontally (1) Month, (2) International Dues, (3) International Assessments, (4) Local Assessments, (5) Local Fines, and twelve spaces vertically for the months of the year.

Month. Int. Dues	Int. Assess.	Local Assess.	Local Fines
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January	May	September
February	June	October
March	July	November
April	August	December

Northern District Council of Stove  
Mounters' Int. Union of N. A.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

KENNETH L. FORD,  
Secretary-Treasurer.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

Resolutions Nos. 16, 23, 27, 29, 49, 50, 51, grouped and substitute resolution adopted for the whole as follows:

The constitution shall be amended to provide for the establishment of salary, President and Secretary-Treasurer for seven days a week at \$12.00 per day, per diem for Executive elected International Officers while traveling in the interests of the International, shall be \$9.00 per day. Vice Presidents salary shall be \$11.00 per day for six days per week, the seventh to be paid if shown as working. All other expenses shall be itemized before payment is authorized.

## RESOLUTION No. 50

Be it Resolved: That the last sentence of Article IX, Section 1, paragraph 1, be changed to read as follows: His salary shall be four hundred (\$400.00) per month.

54 M. J. Booker	68 W. E. Reckewey
68 E. Fleckenstein	61 Harry Rose
68 Charles Ely	106 Thomas J. Lee
LOS ANGELES CALIF.	123 William Starkey
	125 John E. de Hart

## RESOLUTION No. 51

Be It Resolved: That Section 4 of Article IX, be changed to read as

follows; Executive officers, while traveling and working in the interest of the organization shall be paid a salary of three hundred and fifty (\$350.00) dollars per month. Allowed nine (\$9.00) dollars per day expenses, and five (.05c) per mile actual mileage traveled on union business.

54	M. J. Booker	61	Harry Rose
68	E. Fleckenstein	106	Thomas J. Lee
68	Charles Ely	123	William Starkey
LOS ANGELES CALIF.			
		125	John E. de Hart

### RESOLUTION No. 49

Be It Resolved: That the fifth (5) sentence of Article IX, Section 2 paragraph 1, be changed to read as follows; His salary shall be four hundred (\$400.00) dollars per month.

54	M. J. Booker	68	W. E. Reckewey
68	E. Fleckenstein	61	Harry Rose
68	Charles Ely	106	Thomas J. Lee
LOS ANGELES CALIF.			
		123	William Starkey
		125	John E. de Hart

### RESOLUTION No. 29

Delegate Harry Rose  
Local No. 61, Newark, California

Amend Article IX, Section 4, to read as follows:

WHEREAS, Our International Executive Board officers have not had an increase in salary since the year 1939, and Whereas, The majority of our members believe that under the present conditions our General President, his staff of Vice-Presidents and Special Representatives' salaries and traveling expenses are out of line, we believe that at this convention, that delegates do all in its power to advance both the salaries and traveling expenses to the entire staff of our International Executive Board officers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Executive Board Officers, while traveling in the interest of the organization, shall be allowed a substantial increase in both wages and traveling expenses.

S. M. I. U. Local No. 61  
Newark, Calif. HARRY ROSE

### RESOLUTION No. 27

WHEREAS, we know our officers and representatives are underpaid, and did not enjoy a wage increase for some time, and whereas our constitution only allows the General President and Gen'l. Secretary-Treasurer \$270.00 per month and the officers and representatives \$9.00 per day and \$7.00 per diam,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the President and General Secretary-Treasurer shall receive \$400.00 per month salary.

The officers and representatives to receive \$12.00 per day with \$9.00 per diam while traveling.

S. M. I. U. Local No. 126  
Saint Louis, Missouri. MORRIS SHEEKS

### RESOLUTION No. 23

Whereas, we think the International Officers are not receiving enough salary, and Whereas, all members have received an increase, therefore be it

Resolved, that Article 9, Section 1, read \$12.00 per day in place of \$9.00 per day. Section 2 of Article 9 read \$12.00 in place of \$9.00, and Section 4 of Article 9 read \$11.00 per day in place of \$9.00.

S. M. I. U. Local No. 60  
Belleville, Illinois

EDWIN KABURECK  
MELVIN CHADDERTON  
ROY MUELLER

## RESOLUTION No. 16

## OFFICERS SALARIES

Whereas, the officers of our organization are underpaid, and

Whereas, we are of the opinion that our Officers should be paid adequate wages and expenses as our Representatives; therefore, be it

Resolved, that all articles and sections pertaining to the wages and expenses of Officers be changed to read, their salary shall be fifteen dollars per day (7 days per week). They shall receive ten dollars per day expenses while traveling in the interests of the International.

Northern District Council of Stove KENNETH L. FORD,  
Mounters' Int. Union of N. A. Secretary-Treasurer.

Battle Creek, Michigan Battle Creek, Michigan

## RESOLUTION No. 17

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW REVISION

WHEREAS, no provisions have been made for the revision and compilation of the Constitution and By-Laws after the assembled action of the Convention; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the elected President of the International call a meeting of the elected Executive Board and a Representative from each District for the revision and compilation of the Constitution and By-Laws. The representative delegates to this meeting shall be elected by their districts and their expenses borne by the International, which will consist of time lost, expenses, and first class transportation.

## ADOPTED

Northern District Council of Stove  
Mounters' Int. Union of N. A.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

KENNETH L. FORD,  
Secretary-Treasurer.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

## RESOLUTION No. 25

WHEREAS, Article 14, Section 1, has been changed to provide for a monthly due stamp, and

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Article 18, is now obsolete, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Section 1 of Article 18 be changed to read 2 months instead of 5 weeks.

## ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 60  
Belleville, Illinois

EDWIN KABURECK  
MELVIN CHADDERTON  
ROY MUELLER

## RESOLUTION No. 18

SUSPENSION  
Article Eighteen

WHEREAS, in event the weekly due stamp is discontinued and a monthly due stamp inaugurated; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Article Eighteen, Section One, be changed to read as follows, any member becoming in arrears for dues for a term of two months shall stand suspended; assessments levied shall be collected before dues.

## ADOPTED

Northern District Council of Stove  
Mounters' Int. Union of N. A.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

KENNETH L. FORD,  
Secretary-Treasurer.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

## RESOLUTION No. 61

RESOLVED: That Section 1 Article XVIII the words and numerals five

(5) weeks be stricken out. And the words and numeral two (2) months be substituted instead.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 67  
Albion, Michigan

STANLEY PORTER  
E. J. CURTIS  
WM. HOWARD

**RESOLUTION No. 55**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That Section 3, Article XVIII, be changed to read as follows: Any member who is suspended and thirty days (30) in arrears, cannot be reinstated until he has paid all his arrearages plus \$1.00 fine. If ninety days (90) all his arrearages plus \$5.00 fine. If six months (6 mos.) \$15.00 plus all his arrearages. One half (½) to the local.

NOT ADOPTED

54	M. J. BOOKER	68	W. E. RECKEWY
68	E. FLECKENSTEIN	61	HARRY ROSE
68	CHARLES ELY	88	W. GREENWELL
		106	THOMAS J. LEE
		123	WILLIAM STARKEY
	Los Angeles, Calif.	125	JOHN E. de HART

**RESOLUTION No. 22**

WHEREAS, in past years the General Executive Board has been handicapped by having one or more Vice-Presidents on the Board who were not qualified to fulfill their job, and

WHEREAS, the Board were in a position whereby they were powerless to remove such persons, and

WHEREAS, if the number of Vice-Presidents were reduced, and replaced by Special Representatives the Board would have the power to replace any Special Representative who could not fulfill the job; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Article 8, Section 1, be changed to read THREE Vice-Presidents instead of five, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Article 8, Section 2, be changed to read THREE Vice-Presidents instead of five.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 60  
Belleville, Illinois

EDWIN KABURECK  
MELVIN CHADDERTON  
ROY MUELLER

**RESOLUTION No. 24**

WHEREAS, we are striving to save money for more worthy causes, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Article 21, Section 1, read as follows:

The General Secretary-Treasurer shall forward a paper to all Locals for their membership each quarter.

**RESOLUTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE**

ADOPTED

EDWIN KABURECK  
MELVIN CHADDERTON  
ROY MUELLER

**RESOLUTION No. 26**

**COST OF LIVING INDEX  
NATIONAL WAGE SCALES**

WHEREAS, when any Local are negotiating a contract there is a great

need for data pertaining to wages in the Stove Industry and the costs of living, and

WHEREAS, the Manufacturer has at his finger tips Indexes of the cost of living and wages of the stove industry nationally; Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the International set up a cost of living index and the wage scales of the Stove Industry Nationally, to be made to date every three months and a copy supplied to each District and each Vice-President in the field for the use of any Local negotiating a contract.

ADOPTED

Northern District Council of Stove  
Mounters' Int. Union of N. A.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

KENNETH L. FORD,  
Secretary-Treasurer.  
Battle Creek, Michigan

## RESOLUTION No. 28

WHEREAS, the International Constitution calls that conventions shall be held every three years, and with the increased cost of sending delegates to conventions, and the great expense occurred to the International in holding same, while this money could be put to a better use,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the convention of the Stove Mounters International Union of N. A. be held every five years, instead of three years.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 126  
Saint Louis, Missouri

MORRIS SHEEKS

## RESOLUTION No. 30

Delegate Harry Rose  
Local No. 61, Newark, California

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article IX, Section 5, be amended to read as follows:

When an International officer is wanted in any locality, the request shall come from the local. It is recommended that subordinate locals should be visited by an International officer at least once during each year.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 61  
Newark, Calif.

HARRY ROSE

## RESOLUTION No. 31

Delegate Harry Rose  
Local No. 61, Newark, California

We believe that the jurisdiction stated in our constitution of Article XV, Sections 2, 3, and 4, should be modified.

BE IT RESOLVED, That Section 2, Article 15, be amended to read as follows:

Section 2. The charter fee shall be a minimum of \$3.00 and the charter must remain open ninety (90) days. For each candidate initiated during the ninety (90) days and thereafter \$2.00 must be paid to the international. Charter outfit shall be furnished free.

Section 3. At the expiration of the ninety (90) days the maximum initiation fee shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). No charter can be reopened without the consent of the Executive Board. Five dollars (\$5.00) must be paid to the International on each candidate initiated, but all monies paid the International from initiation fees other than the charter fees must be used to

create a Strike Fund, and can be used for no other purpose.

Section 4. All initiation fees other than the charter fee must be not less than the minimum amount of five dollars (\$5.00). Initiation fees may be waived at discretion of the Executive Board.

ADOPTED AS AMENDED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 61  
Newark, Calif.

HARRY ROSE

### RESOLUTION No. 32

Delegate Harry Rose  
Local No. 61, Newark, California

BE IT RESOLVED, That Sections 2 and 3, Article XVI, be amended to read as follows:

Section 2. All active dues-paying members shall be charged full assessment, as levied by the International, and shall receive full amount of strike benefits of Ten Dollars (\$10.00).

Section 3. All members including members of newly organized locals involved in a strike or lockout, which has been approved by the Executive Board, shall, one week from date of strike or lockout occurs, receive the sum of Ten dollars (\$10.00) per week; for a period of three (3) months, unless the time is extended by unanimous vote of the Executive Board, and then not to exceed twenty-six (26) weeks.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 61  
Newark, Calif.

HARRY ROSE

### RESOLUTION No. 34

RESOLVED, that Section 4, Article 7 be amended to read:

Representation in Special International Conventions shall be upon the same basis that as governs regular International Conventions.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 57, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

### RESOLUTION No. 35

RESOLVED, that No. 4 on Page 53 decisions be amended to read:

No Local Union can order a strike without complying with the International Constitution.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 57, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

### RESOLUTION No. 36

WHEREAS many members of our organization leave to work in open shops that come within the jurisdiction of our International Union and whereas these members stop paying active dues and continue to pay B. H. dues and whereas this condition is contrary to the constitution. Therefore be it resolved that no local secretary shall grant B. H. dues when a member is working under any work coming within the jurisdiction of the Stove Mounters' International Union.

Be it further resolved that said members be required to pay active working dues.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 57, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

## RESOLUTION No. 37

WHEREAS the expense incurred in the rental of International office and stockroom space has steadily increased because of O. P. A. rent controls having gone off of office space,

WHEREAS it is likely that the rent now paid will in from five to ten years purchase a very good International headquarters and stock room space, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the incoming Executive Board be empowered to purchase a building in St. Louis, Mo., at its discretion at a cost not to exceed \$17,500.00.

ADOPTED AS AMENDED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 36, 43, 52, 57, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

## RESOLUTION No. 38

RESOLVED that Section 8, Article 19 be amended to read:

In towns or shops where there are not enough members to secure or hold a charter said members can as a body deposit their cards in the nearest Local with the consent of the International Executive Board.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 36, 43, 52, 57, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

## RESOLUTION No. 39

WHEREAS the Local Committee and the Local Union under democratic procedure has the full right to ratify any and all settlements on any agreement or controversy. Therefore be it

RESOLVED that Section No. 6 of Article No. 16 of our International Constitution be amended to read:

When the International Union intervenes in any strike or other controversies, final settlement must be made in the presence of the Local Union Committee and must be voted for by a majority of members present at a Local Meeting.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 36, 43, 52, 57, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

## RESOLUTION No. 40

WHEREAS Section No. 5, Article No. 5 of the present Constitution does not bear out what is really meant in getting resolutions before the Convention. Therefore be it

RESOLVED that Section 5, Article 5 of the Constitution be changed to read:

All resolutions introduced by the Local Unions to the International Convention shall be in the office of the International Secretary not later than thirty days prior to the opening day of the Convention, typewritten and in triplicate form and shall bear the name or names of the delegates presenting same, the Local number and the City. No resolution shall be introduced after the noon session of the second day of the Convention without the consent of two-thirds vote of the delegates present at a session.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 57, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

**RESOLUTION No. 41**

RESOLVED that Standing Miscellaneous Rule No. 39 on Page 52 be deleted from the Constitution.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 51, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

**RESOLUTION No. 42**

RESOLVED that Section 1-A, Article 16 of our International Constitution be changed to read:

Any Local Union requesting strike sanction from the International Executive Board must first have taken a secret ballot at a Local meeting in which 60% of the membership present voted to request such sanction. Ballots tabulated at such meeting to be sent to the International Office with request for strike sanction.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 51, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

**RESOLUTION No. 43**

WHEREAS it is now clear that the Molders Union insists on raiding our International Union, and has acted in bad faith in an effort to have our International Charter taken down by the American Federation of Labor, and,

WHEREAS the Molders Union continues to take in membership coming within the jurisdiction of the Stove Mounters' Union, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that Standing Miscellaneous Rule No. 6 on Page 47 be deleted from our Constitution.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 51, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

**RESOLUTION No. 44**

WHEREAS the Constitution in its present form does not make provisions for salaries of Special Representatives, or Organizers—

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that the pay for Special Representatives or Organizers be left to the discretion of the Executive Board, and be it further resolved that said wages shall not exceed at any time the salary of the elected officers of the International Union.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Locals No. 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 24, 32, 34, 36, 43, 52, 51, 60, 73, 86, 94, 96, 99, 100, 107, 110

**RESOLUTION No. 45**

WHEREAS the members of Local 57 feel that it is more nearly related economically to the Northern District, and

WHEREAS Local 57 feels that better relations can be maintained because of this relation, and

WHEREAS the geographical location of 57 is more north in location. Therefore be it

RESOLVED that this convention through due process reallocate Local 57 from the Southwestern district to the Northern.

ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 57  
Kokomo, Ind.

JAMES T. JOHNSTON  
HARRY WHITED

## RESOLUTION No. 46

## RESOLVED:

That locals who, while on strike, receive money from the International shall, ninety (90) days after returning to work have a special assessment of one dollar (\$1.00) levied against each member of said Locals, said assessment continuing for one year.

If at any time before the year has expired said Local shall again be on strike, ninety (90) days shall expire before special assessment of one dollar shall be levied against each member of the locals.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 67  
Albion, Mich.

SAMUEL KELLER

## RESOLUTION No. 47

## RESOLVED:

The Stove Mounters' International Union of North America procure the services of a professional time study man to assist locals in settling time study disputes.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 40  
Taunton, Mass.

JOHN PINZ (Pres.)

JOSEPH N. ELIAS (Rec. Sec.)

## RESOLUTION No. 48

BE IT RESOLVED: That, any member now paying for insurance benefits may be permitted to discontinue paying for such benefits, providing he releases the International of any and all obligation for such monies paid or allocated for insurance purposes from dues, fees or assessments prior to discontinuance.

## RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR

54 M. J. BOOKER

61	HARRY ROSE
88	W. GREENWELL
123	WILLIAM STARKEY
106	Thomas J. Lee

Los Angeles, Calif.

## RESOLUTION No. 52

BE IT RESOLVED: That for the protection of the International, from damage suits that might arise, that adequate amounts of property damage and public liability insurance be procured.

## ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Los Angeles, Calif.

54 M. J. BOOKER

## RESOLUTION No. 53

BE IT RESOLVED: That Section 4, Article XV, be changed to read as follows: All initiation fees other than the charter fee be not less than the minimum amount—fifteen (\$15.00) dollars.

NOT ADOPTED

Los Angeles, Calif.

54 M. J. BOOKER

## RESOLUTION No. 54

BE IT RESOLVED: That Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph 2, be changed to read as follows: Railroad fares and expenses of a delegate of a local union that is on strike shall be paid by the International Union if a strike sanction has been granted the local.

ADOPTED

54 M. J. BOOKER

68 W. E. RECKEWHEY

68 E. FLECKENSTEIN  
68 CHARLES ELY

61 HARRY ROSE  
88 W. GREENWELL  
106 THOMAS J. LEE  
123 WILLIAM STARKEY  
125 JOHN E. de HART

Los Angeles, Calif.

## RESOLUTION No. 56

WHEREAS: The primary purpose of the Union Label is that of being on the product until it reaches the consumer,

WHEREAS, the present label does not adhere to many surfaces:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the label be dressed up and printed on Decalcomania transfers for the sake of permanence and practical use and if the cost is not prohibitive.

ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Los Angeles, Calif.

54 M. J. BOOKER  
125 JOHN E. de HART

## RESOLUTION No. 57

BE IT RESOLVED: That the International Union cease and desist its practice of carrying insurance on the lives of all members instated after October 1st, 1947.

NOT ADOPTED

54 M. J. BOOKER

88 W. GREENWELL  
106 THOMAS J. LEE  
123 WILLIAM STARKEY

Los Angeles, Calif.

## RESOLUTION No. 58

BE IT RESOLVED: That Section 6, Article XV be changed to read as follows: The rate of dues shall be two dollars (\$2.00) per month exclusive of all fees charged for insurance benefits.

NOT ADOPTED

Los Angeles, Calif.

54 M. J. BOOKER

## RESOLUTION No. 59

BE IT RESOLVED: That sentence 1, Section 1, Article XIV, be changed to read as follows: The revenue of this organization shall be derived as follows: Each subordinate local shall pay into the treasury one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per month per member.

NOT ADOPTED

Los Angeles, Calif.

54 M. J. BOOKER

## RESOLUTION No. 60

RESOLVED: That Article XIV Section I be revised to read as follows. Each subordinate local shall pay into the treasury of the International Union the sum of forty-five cents (45c) per week per-capita on members paying sixty cents (60c) per week dues. And the sum of one dollar and ten cents (\$1.10) per month per-capita on members paying two dollars (\$2.00) per month dues.

Sixty cent (60c) weekly dues paying members may pay to keep up their beneficiary cards by paying eighty cents (80c) per month per-capita for such stamp issued by the International Union while not actually employed at the trade.

Monthly dues paying members may pay to keep up their beneficiary cards by paying into the local sixty cents (60c) per-capita per month for stamp while not actually employed at the trade. All monies under beneficiary dues

classification shall be forwarded to the International Treasurer and shall be placed in death fund. The death fund shall be maintained at Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) at all times. 49% of the active dues stamp money shall be placed in the general fund and 51% of the active dues stamp money shall be divided as follows. 49% into the strike fund, 10% into the Union label fund, and 41% into the death benefit fund.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 67  
Albion, Michigan

STANLEY PORTER  
E. J. CURTIS  
WM. HOWARD

## RESOLUTION No. 62

WHEREAS: Our International treasury does not receive enough revenue to permit the proper functioning of the several offices.

AND WHEREAS: Our present system of collecting dues is obsolete as well as expensive.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 6, Article XV, be changed to read as follows: The dues shall be two dollars (\$2.00) per month payable monthly and the member shall be entitled to the death benefit of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) provided he or she is in good standing according to the laws governing the payment of death benefits.

This shall not apply to members now paying sixty cents (60c) per week dues. They may continue to pay 60c per week and be entitled to the benefits now being paid for that class of dues. This shall become effective January 1st, 1948.

NOT ADOPTED

S. M. I. U. Local No. 67  
Albion, Michigan

STANLEY PORTER  
E. J. CURTIS  
WM. HOWARD

## RESOLUTION No. 63

WHEREAS, in our present constitution which governs the election of our Vice-Presidents and the one to assume the office of President in event of death or other reasons, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that our Vice-Presidents shall be elected in order one, two and etc., according to relative number of votes cast, and that the First Vice-President shall fill the office of President in event of death or other reasons or the second or third etc.

ADOPTED AS AMENDED

KENNETH L. FORD, Sec.-Treas.  
Northern District Council

## RESOLUTION No. 64

WHEREAS, in some plants where the members work piece work some members who are greedy for wages have been known to start ahead of time and noon hour, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that it be inserted in our constitution an article providing for a fine for this member with the provision he is not receiving punitive time.

NOT ADOPTED

KENNETH L. FORD, Sec.-Treas.  
Northern District Council

## RESOLUTION No. 65

WHEREAS, the cards of identification only specify you are a Stove Mounter of a certain local, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the new cards printed have a blank to designate the

craft of the bearer.

**ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

KENNETH L. FORD, Sec.-Treas.  
Northern District Council

**RESOLUTION No. 66**

WHEREAS, when any Locals are negotiating a contract there is a great need for data pertaining to wages in the Stove Industry and the costs of living and

WHEREAS the manufacturer has at his finger tips indexes of the cost of living and the wages of the Stove Industry nationally, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the International set up a cost of living index and the wages of the Stove Industry nationally to be made to date every three months and a copy supplied to each district and one to each Vice-President in the field for use of any Local negotiating a contract.

**RESOLUTION DUPLICATED; NOT ACTED UPON**

KENNETH L. FORD, Sec.-Treas.  
Northern District Council

**RESOLUTION No. 67**

WHEREAS, a lot of work is placed on the Secretaries in the collection of dues, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that a loose leaf note book be made and furnished to the Secretaries. The size to be approximately four and one half inches wide by six inches high, the first page to be for listing the names and the pages inserted above to contain the number of lines horizontally as there are name spaces and four vertical lines.

**NOT ADOPTED**

KENNETH L. FORD, Sec.-Treas.  
Northern District Council

*Sc*

**RESOLUTION No. 68**

## PROCEEDINGS

## 27th Convention

STOVE MOUNTERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION  
OF NORTH AMERICA

July 15-18, 1947

Masonic Temple

Kalamazoo, Michigan

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## TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

July 15, 1947

The 27th International Convention of the Stove Mounters International Union of North America, held at the Masonic Temple, Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 15-18, 1947, convened at 10:15 A. M., Brother Joseph Galarda, Local 90, presiding.

CHAIRMAN GALARDA: Delegates, we will call this session to order. At this time, I would like to introduce Reverend T. H. Hoos, who will give the invocation.

REVEREND T. H. HOOS: Our Father who art in heaven, we are but men and women in Thy sight who need direction. We are a cross-section of the men and women who are rolling industry along in this great land of ours. Along with our work there are responsibilities, and this company of men and women have gathered to take care of those official responsibilities in this, their organization.

We ask Thee in the name of our Lord and Savior that Thou wilt bless these men and women. Their duties and their purposes are a part of the great land of ours and the great industries of this land. O God, give them wisdom.

There are those who are conservative and those who are liberal. May the liberal have charity with the conservatives, and the conservatives with the liberal, and together may they work out the problems they have at hand and the program for their future. In the election of their officers and whatever other business falls to their lot, may Thy hand be there to guide them, for when Thou dost guide us we do not go astray.

In their pleasures as they have gathered together, in their sightseeing as we note in the program, and in their social gatherings, we pray that blessings may be theirs; safety in all their going and coming; and as they return to their homes may they feel that it was more than just simply happenstance, but that they were under the guiding hand of God.

These mercies we ask, and blessing upon the leaders of this organization, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CHAIRMAN GALARDA: Delegates, at this time it is a great pleasure to introduce Mayor Ford, who will extend us the official welcome to the city. (Applause)

MAYOR HENRY FORD, JR.: Mr. Chairman, delegates and friends: It is a pleasure for me, on behalf of the City of Kalamazoo, to welcome to our city the delegates and friends of this 27th convention of the Stove Mounters International Union of North America.

Our city is very glad to act as your host. The business in which you are engaged, that of stoves, has played a big part in the industrial life and development of our city, and so we appreciate its importance. I fear that our city would not be as well known as it is if it were not for the stove business, because stoves have carried the name of our community to all parts of the world through the slogan, "Direct to you from Kalamazoo."

I want to say that I believe these conventions, such as this one that you are attending, can be productive of a great deal of good. I have noticed that you have on your program speakers who are experts in the field of labor and in labor-management conciliation. That is a fine thing. I don't think it can be emphasized too much about the advisability of labor studying its problems in connection with the matter of how they are tied in with the problems of management. The better the understanding that exists between labor and

management, the better chance both have of achieving what they are after—good jobs and good production.

A story is told about a laborer who came home one night from work, looking worried and blue. His wife noticed it as soon as he entered the door. She said, "John, what is the matter? You look worried. You're dragging your feet. Has something happened? Have you been fired?"

"No," John said, "it's worse than that. Just before quitting time tonight the boss called me in and gave me the business!" (Laughter)

Ladies and gentlemen, may I express the wish of our city that you will have a very successful convention, and at the same time that you will have an enjoyable time while you are here. I hope you will find the facilities of our city entirely adequate for your needs. It is a pleasure for me to welcome you to our community. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN GALARDA: Now comes a man who no doubt is a friend of labor. He is Herbert Bresson, President of the Kalamazoo Federation of Labor. (Applause)

MR. HERBERT BRESSON: Delegates to the Stove Mounters International convention: I don't believe I have much to say except to note that the Federation is more than happy that you have chosen Kalamazoo for your convention. A lot of folks need to be shown that organized labor is together and is going to stick together. Now is the time to get out and work things out on a nice plan.

The bill we tried to fight is now a law. I was at the Michigan Federation of Labor meeting when the bill was passed. It certainly spoiled the attitude of practically everyone there. The only thing we can do as members of organized labor is to get together and hold our shoulders to the wheel and try to help ourselves along. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN GALARDA: Delegates, in the Northern District Council of Stove Mounters we have a man who spends a great deal of his time on the road, lecturing and giving assistance to labor people such as ourselves, more or less in an educational capacity. We have with us Professor A. K. Stevens of the Workers Educational Service of the University of Michigan. There is no question about his stand. He is a member of the teachers' organization himself, and for many years has been very active in the field of labor.

May I present Professor Stevens. (Applause)

PROFESSOR A. K. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, officers, members of the Stove Mounters International Union, and fellow members of the A. F. of L.: I am very glad to be here. I thank the Chairman for his opening remarks. They were a bit on the grand side, but give me opportunity to bear testimony to the Workers Education Service of the University, which I have the honor to represent in this area of the State.

Before I get into my remarks this morning, I want to be sure that all of you across the nation, and particularly those of you who come from Michigan, know that at the University you have a specially developed, separately set up Workers Education Service, yours to command.

I am very glad also to say that Kalamazoo is one of the best recipients of that Service. We have been welcomed continuously, since its launching eighteen years ago, in the halls of the Kalamazoo Federation of Labor, just across the street, where we have had one of the finest continuous audiences over the years. If you go to a half dozen different towns continuously the year round, pretty soon you can tell which has the best audience. We have that in the Kalamazoo Federation of Labor.

Also, we have had the honor of serving especially, with our work, the Local in this town, the Paper Makers, of which Brother Bresson is a member.

I was trying to recall the number of the Stove Mounters Union—yes, Local 74. They have a program now in operation whereby we come to their Union local meetings. We have had the pleasure and honor of serving the Stove Mounters Local in Battle Creek, and the brothers in Battle Creek will have to tell us that number—yes, Local 79.

I just want to be sure you all know that you have this Service to call upon, and if you want to know anything more about it, at the end of the session I will be glad to give you a little folder, and you can call me or write a letter to me at the University. We will pay your call and proceed to establish friendly relations.

I have been asked this morning to speak on the Taft-Hartley law. I need instructions from the Chairman as to how much time he wants me to devote to this. I don't think he understands yet how dangerous it is to put a professor up in front of an audience. It's like wine that goes to the head: The man will keep on talking and talking until someone shuts him off. You will have to make your decision and regulate me.

**BROTHER CLARENCE BEAUDOIN (Local 79):** We have heard from the Mayor of the City and from the other speakers, and at this time we want to meet our International President, Joseph Lewis. Let's have him take the Chair!

**CHAIRMAN GALARDA:** Delegates, we have a very fine program set up. Professor Stevens has gone to some trouble to prepare something that is as much as anybody can find out at this time about this law, and the Committee feels we should hear from Professor Stevens. (Applause)

**PROFESSOR STEVENS:** Thank you. Why was the Taft-Hartley bill passed? If you look into history you will find that after every great war in which the United States participated, there has been this kind of wave backward. Why? Because the psychology of war is this: During the panic of war, during the strain and excitement and fear, all the groups of society and all the elements are tied together. We lose our differences and we all put our shoulders to the wheel and make a common effort to defeat the foe.

If you will recall, in 1941, 1942 and 1943 the newspapers and magazines and air waves and conversation were full of the idea that now we are a united people, and that now, in terms of what is offered to labor, this is the beginning of the new age when labor will be recognized fully in the councils of state and will be a respectable part and a more important part than ever before of society. In other words, big promises are made freely.

Comes the victory. We are still a democratic nation and nobody is obliged to carry out those promises too literally. In fact, the promises are a bit embarrassing. So you have the new psychological effect coming up, whereby the promises have to be reversed, and the groups which gained control for the time being, by way of elective processes, see to it that in this case after each great war labor, so to speak, is put in its place.

Some of you have memories long enough to recall what happened after the first world war by way of this same wave of reaction which smashed unions right and left and made it very hard to organize. We are in that same kind of trough now after World War II; that is, the over-riding, over-all psychological reason for this legislation which is now on the books of the land.

There are specialized reasons, and I am going to be very frank as a member of organized labor myself. The reasons are not hard to find. The Wagner Act, passed in 1935, was a new Bill of Rights for labor. It opened up a field in which labor could move forward with some degree of protection and confidence. It was long overdue. The organizing history of the United States is much later and slower than that of Europe, for instance, and because it was long overdue labor and its organizations rushed into the new opening created by the Wagner Act of 1935.

That Act was sound psychologically, again conditioned by the fact that prior to the Act we had five or six years of bitter depression and a history of considerable antagonism to the organizing efforts of labor. Therefore, the Act was written in order to protect the forward movement of labor.

Labor moved forward, and as it moved hundreds of new faces appeared in the organized labor movement—hundreds and thousands and millions. We jumped as a total group from about 3 million in the A. F. of L. exclusively to what is now, between 14 and 15 million in the A. F. of L., the C. I. O., the Railway Brotherhoods, and all other organizations.

In that picture in the last twelve years, therefore, we have had only the legislation which enabled labor to go forward and expand. I am free to say that in those twelve years labor made some whopping mistakes. It was often very rude, sometimes arrogant; too many spectacular events occurred, and you can find them out for yourselves in these last twelve months. Labor went beyond the patience of the public. There was some measure of truth in that, brothers and sisters, and we might as well acknowledge it.

In so far as that is part of the reason for this new Taft-Hartley law, we had better take stock of our own responsibilities and our own actions in the past, and see to it that our new policies are so designed as to avoid giving irritation and offense to other sections of society other than the employer.

That leads me directly to some remarks I want to make about the law itself. I am not going to try to give you an exposition of it, and part of the time given to me this morning, I want to use in answers to questions.

As I read the law and study it patiently, as far as my intelligence carries me in the days since June 23, I am much impressed by the roll-back of power and responsibility that is going to be brought about by this law. What roll-back? It is a roll-back from your own elective officials and your paid employees—a roll-back of power and influence and responsibility from those boys, to the rank and file membership again. As long as the Taft-Hartley law remains on the books, the rank and file member is going to have more responsibility, a greater share in the operation of his union than he has ever had before.

Why? Well, for one thing, because the law has an expressed provision which makes the union responsible for all the actions of its employees and officials. Whatever they do will be construed by the law as the official action of the union. Hitherto it was only the express action, ratified and endorsed, and orders given by the union to the official or the business agent, for which the union was responsible. Now it is the casual, off-hand, run-of-the-mill decision which your officials and business agents make for which the union is going to be responsible to the last penny.

That is going to have an effect upon your officials and agents. They are going to be much more cautious, and I don't blame them. Who would want to go to jail for a while? They are going to ask more and more, and consult more closely with the union. They are going to be more timid. Some of that is regrettable. In other cases it is a good thing.

I know stove mounters are fine people. None of my remarks apply to any of the stove mounter people I know, but you and I know enough about unions generally, and I wandered through the confines of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and some railway brotherhoods and independent outfits, and I am not speaking of any one particular group of unions. But you will agree that once in a while, here and there, it has been heard that some business agents and officials were pretty cocky, and that they rather enjoyed their power, as you and I might well do in the same situation. I love power, too.

It means that those excesses of arrogance, ruthlessness, indifference to public opinion which have been perpetrated and committed by some union

officials at some times and in some places, are going to be curbed, and we are all going to pay the penalty for past actions. That is good; neither you nor I like it in our hearts.

That means that the rank and file are going to have to know what is going on in the union, and they are going to have to make wise decisions, because the power is going to be forsaken more and more by the union officials, and you are going to have the rank and file carrying the burden today.

Another factor is that the rank and file, according to the Taft-Hartley law, are going to be consulted more frequently by the law itself—by the National Labor Relations Board. The rank and file, for instance, in the next fourteen months at least, of all unions, as I understand the law, are going to have to vote on whether they want to continue the union shop. They are not going to have a closed shop, you know that, but they are going to have to vote on having a union shop, and that means not just the members of the union now, but all the employees covered by the bargaining unit. It means that all the members of the union had better turn out and vote, and the rank and file had better make up their minds whether they want a union shop or not, because the vote will be a secret vote, and if you don't have a majority you will not have a union shop. That gives the rank and file some responsibility which they have not been using lately.

From time to time, but not more frequently than once in twelve months, the rank and file are going to have to vote on certification, on whether they want this particular bargaining unit, this union local, affiliated this way or that, to represent them. That will have to be certified to the Board.

An unpleasant feature, and one which might be healthy, is that any member can go around among other discontented people of the shop and members of the local, and if he can get any considerable number—about 30 per cent—to sign a petition with him, he can send that to the N. L. R. B. and ask for an election, which would be calculated merely to prove that they don't want a union at all, that this particular bargaining unit does not represent them. That is decertification. It is going to be much easier to do that.

The rank and file, therefore, are going to have to vote from time to time on whether they want to continue the union or not. That is to protect the status of the local, and they are going to have to be pretty well indoctrinated in the principles of unionism if they are to hold the local to its job.

In other words, the local in turn will have to deliver some goods to the rank and file. It will have to sell itself and prove its worth; and there again, not speaking of stove mounters, I know some unions in this State which are going to benefit immensely from that provision. Some of the boys are going to have to get off their hands and go to work—some of the boys sitting in the offices of the unions. That is all to the good. If that is heresy, you can hiss me; if it is true, that is the only kind of agreement I want. That is to the good.

Another great responsibility is that under the union shop provisions you are going to have to be a lot more patient with that perpetual sorehead—and there is a sorehead in every union, the guy who simply is agin' everything. Do you know him? Did you ever meet him? He is a trouble-maker. He tries your patience until it is worn to a frazzle.

In the past you could knock his ears back easily by telling him that if he didn't behave he would be out of the union—that meant out of a job. You don't have that privilege any more. You are going to have to put up with that sorehead. The only reason you will have for throwing him out of the union (and therefore out of his job) under a union shop is if he fails to pay his regular dues and assessments. You can't even throw him out for non-attendance, or for bucking the union, or for saying nasty things about the union officials, or for trying to create a ruckus or split in the union. You can't do anything about that. The only reason you have is if he does not pay his dues and assessments.

If you throw him out for any other reason, and you try to force the employer to dismiss him from the shop, he can sue you up to the hilt for back pay. The longer he is out the more you will have to pay. If you grant he is a sorehead to start with, he is going to sue you for every last penny you have, and you will have to pay it.

That means that the rank and file members are going to have to learn the arts of patience and persuasion. They are going to have to deal with these soreheads, and they are just a minor fringe in every local, and they will have to sell them over again on the idea of being good boys and faithful members of the local, or at least pipe down.

That is a big strain on the rank and file—that they will have to soften up the irreconcilable, the soreheads, the guys who are agin', and butter them up, or whatever you want to call it, and sell them again on the idea of being good union men. You can't push them around any more.

So the rank and file are going to have to know again what it means to be a loyal member of organized labor.

To me it seems, on superficial analysis, that the principles of unionism are going to have to be known once more. It is going to be no longer the case, as it was particularly under closed shop arrangements, that the law will carry the union along. The legal situation in the United States served in many respects as a soft kind of cradle for unionism. I know you didn't feel that way, and probably don't agree with me, but I can prove it to you.

It was a very generous, soft, restful kind of cradle for the union, because the law was set up that way and the closed shop was permitted. To work in your craft in a certain area you had to be a member of the union and pay your dues, and the union didn't have to do anything more about it. They didn't have to persuade you that unionism has some kind of basic faith, that it has a quality of holding men together in a democratic society, that is has a mission to fulfill in terms of the nation as a whole. They didn't have to sell us those ideas at all, because the law formed the cradle and the framework and the pattern, and it protected the union in its closed shop arrangements, and everything was hunky-dorey, and the man who didn't know about unionism went his own way and it didn't matter too much.

Now that kind of support has been removed. Now the principles and the value of unionism are going to have to prove themselves of themselves. I think that is a healthy thing, personally. I think we have been sort of resting on our oars since the Wagner Act, and the union movement has become rather flabby. In fact, some unions are already saying it was a good thing to pass the Taft-Hartley law just for the reason that too many of the organizers were turning into sissies, because all they had to do, you see, was to finagle around and get some petitions signed, and then have an NLRB election, and behold! the plant was organized.

I don't know what you think about it, and I am not sure of it myself, but the impact of the Taft-Hartley bill is going to be that unionism, in terms of principles and faith and something men live by, will be improved. It is going to be a healthier and more formidable thing to deal with. In some cases, of course, the law being very harsh in some of its clauses, it is going to throw the unions in upon themselves, and there will be hostility between unions and society once more. That is most unfortunate.

How are you going to deal with that? We live in a democratic society, a Republican form of government, and you have a right to choose your representatives. If you want this law changed, just as you might want any law on our books changed, what do you do?

Basically, you go out and vote, in the first place -- and here I am privileged to be harsh if I want to be, because I know from investigation how few workers at times go to the polls, and I am ashamed of it. I'll bawl them out from now until the next election. A lot of us didn't go to the polls two years ago,

and we are paying for it now.

It isn't quite enough to go to the polls, however. In this country, as big and as complex as it is, people had better go to the polls in groups, that is, in the sense of being agreed upon how they are going to throw their political weight around.

I am coming close to recommending that unions are going to be more politically conscious than ever before. They are going to know their enemies better, and reward their friends more faithfully. You don't reward your friends by staying away from the polls on election day. In other words, you are going to get pledges from people, if you are so minded who will go to Congress and change the law. It is done very easily, I assure you. The way to do it is well known. There is no hidden trick about it. The only catch in it is that it takes work, persistence, loyalty to your group, patience. It takes legwork up and down the street ringing doorbells. It requires people who have the patience to go to dry, long political meetings in the ward and in the precinct, starting down at the grass roots.

I like the Taft-Hartley law, therefore, because it may induce the workers of America to recapture their democratic right and privilege. It may make them once more politically conscious so that they will do their duty as rank and file democratic citizens, and now they have a special reason and it is all to the good.

What does this add up to? First, living under the law, if you are going to put up with it, it means that the rank and file are going to have to be sold on the principles of unionism once more. You are going to have to demonstrate to them that the union has something for them, that it can make a contribution to their welfare. After that you had better go home and think of your sins and start a new approach, because the rank and file are going to be bosses here-after when they have never been before.

Second, if you want to change the law, again you are going to need the rank and file, and again as American citizens living under a Constitution with free rights equal to everybody else, you are going to have to use your rights of representative government to change the law. That means a lot of legwork.

Are there any questions?

BROTHER EUGENE KELLY: (Local 79): Would it be possible to outlaw union secured benefits to members who refuse to join the union after they are employed? In other words, if a man joins the shop and is given the preference of joining the union or not joining, would it be possible to refuse him seniority in bidding procedures?

PROFESSOR STEVENS: No, I don't think so. You could do something about it, however. You could have some influence on it if it is a union shop, if you have voted for a union shop, but it is only persuasion even so. The only way you can deal with that man is upon his refusal to pay the regular dues and assessments.

BROTHER KELLY: If a man is hired, I understand he doesn't have to join the union now.

PROFESSOR STEVENS: That is right, unless you have a union shop. Then he has to join the union. When you have a union shop contract he has to join the union after a certain waiting period; then the union shop contract provides for seniority. That will take care of that part of your question.

BROTHER DWIGHT JOHNSON (Local 16): Under that assessment affair, if a fellow gets out of line can we assess him for that? Does that assessment - you say his dues and assessments -

PROFESSOR STEVENS: His regular dues and assessments. You cannot

discriminate against him with a whopping fine.

BROTHER JOHNSON: No more penalties are possible?

PROFESSOR STEVENS: Not of the kind which are especially fabricated for his particular case. If there is a published known list of fines and penalties which will satisfy the law as being regular, then of course you can apply those.

BROTHER JOHNSON: In other words, anything we already have in our by-laws is still in force?

PROFESSOR STEVENS: I should say so, yes. That leads me to a very important statement: Nothing that I say about the Taft-Hartley law or interpretation of it should be taken as official: I am not a lawyer and I am not qualified to give advice.

BROTHER CLARENCE BEAUDOIN: (Local 79): How does it happen that John L. Lewis evaded that law? Taft said, "That does not come under the law." Hartley said it is against the law. He absolutely violated the law when he withdrew the paychecks from the people. Can you answer that?

PROFESSOR STEVENS: I don't understand your question clearly. Do you mean the 10 cents royalty per ton?

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I mean the checkoff system. That is a violation of the law.

PROFESSOR STEVENS: No; the checkoff was permitted --

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I know the law. He said it didn't apply to John L. Lewis but it applied to everybody else.

PROFESSOR STEVENS: It applies to John L. Lewis because in the contract he agreed to furnish in writing the names of the people, their signatures, with the checkoff.

BROTHER ELMER FLECKENSTEIN (Local 68): Suppose a foreman fires a sorehead and the man claims he has been discriminated against by the union, and that the union put pressure against the foreman, although the union did not actually. Could he then sue the union?

PROFESSOR STEVENS: Yes, he could sue the union; but the union would have to be able to prove it did not discriminate against him, that it did not force his dismissal.

BROTHER FLECKENSTEIN: In other words, if the foreman decided to discharge the man, he could incriminate the union in that way?

PROFESSOR STEVENS: Certainly. I could join any stove mounters' union and raise hob by the same method.

BROTHER CLARENCE RUSSELL (Local 90): I would like to ask one question. You said something about twelve months before this would take effect. After that, in our shop if we had an election and we got over 50 per cent, then everybody who works there must belong -- or can they hire right along, and can the new employees say they don't want to belong?

PROFESSOR STEVENS: I understand the provisions of the union shop arrangement are that you have to have a majority of the employees vote for the union shop. The union shop means that after a waiting period of thirty or sixty days, or whatever is agreed to, all employees of the shop must join the union in the sense of paying dues and assessments.

BROTHER RUSSELL: You say they do not have to belong, and then you say if they vote for a union shop they must belong. First you said no, and now you say yes.

**PROFESSOR STEVENS:** After you have voted your 51 per cent you must still sell the union idea to the employer. It has to be in contract, certainly.

**BROTHER RUSSELL:** Another question: If an employer makes any discriminating remarks about any union official, has he got a penalty on that? Suppose he says I am a Communist; could he make those assertions all he cared to?

**PROFESSOR STEVENS:** Yes, except that he is still liable for an unfair labor practice if his remark shows he is threatening reprisal, dismissal, cutting your wage, or any other kind of discrimination. If he begins calling you a Communist and you can show that that is a kind of reprisal, then he is liable for an unfair labor practice.

**BROTHER RUSSELL:** I have heard so much about union representatives saying anything about Taft or Hartley or anybody else affiliated with this law. Thank you.

**PROFESSOR STEVENS:** Time is running out. I want to be sure to call to your attention the first book that has come my way, at least, which undertakes to explain the Taft-Hartley law. Would you like to know where to get it in case you are interested? It is published by the Commerce Clearing House, Incorporated, Zone 1, Chicago. It is a pamphlet of 128 pages, 100 of which are given over to a very fine, accurate (as far as I can tell) analysis of the law, and just how it works, as minutely as possible. There are about 25 pages on the law itself. It is well organized and highly subdivided so you can find subjects under a variety of headings. The cost is \$1.00. I am not promoting the sale of the products of this company; I am not interested in the company. I am interested that you know how to get hold of something quickly, which is accurate and which will tell you of your responsibilities under the Taft-Hartley law.

Thank you. (Applause)

**CHAIRMAN GALARDA:** Professor Stevens, in the name of the delegates I want to thank you for your fine, constructive talk on this subject. Thank you very much.

We are going to be faced with some entertainment during our stay here. As stove mounters we always have nice, clean entertainment. At this time, I want to introduce Brother James Baker, General Chairman of our Convention Entertainment Committee. (Applause)

**BROTHER JAMES BAKER:** Mr. Chairman, brothers and sisters: I don't know what I can say in view of the fact that the programs have been distributed. We trust we have not so arranged our entertainment that it will interfere in any way with the serious business of the convention. The entertainment should be secondary.

However, we have tried to arrange such entertainment as the District affords. We hope it will meet with your approval. If there is anything we have overlooked, we would welcome any suggestions so that we can make your stay in Kalamazoo a little more enjoyable.

I do want to reiterate that the entertainment in this convention should be secondary, and we should get down to brass tacks and take care of our serious business so that we can possibly add to our entertainment later.

I also want to thank those who have done the work in connection with the arrangement of the program, and thank those friends of labor who also have contributed so nicely to this convention and who have assisted the Entertainment Committee.

Thank you. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN GALARDA: Delegates, now comes the moment you have been waiting for. It is a personal honor to be able to turn the gavel over to our International President, Joseph Lewis. (Applause)

[International President Joseph Lewis assumed the chair]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Delegates to the 27th convention, members of the Executive Board, guests and visitors: I am not going to go into Professor Stevens' part of the Taft-Hartley law. During the week I will have a message on what I know of it, which is very little at the present time, because I, too am not a lawyer but a stove mounter.

From time to time we have made arrangements to get every bulletin that comes from Judge Padway's office. They will be sent to all the locals for their officers and members to read and study.

This is my first convention as your President, and under our democratic procedure it might be my last. Since I have been in Kalamazoo we have had a good time—in fact, some of us might have overdone it. However, I think all of the delegates have enjoyed themselves so far. We probably have the most important convention ahead of us that we have ever attended. We happen to be holding our convention a few days, you might say, after that vicious bill was passed.

After hearing the questions and answers a while ago, I shall have to devote a lot of time to the study of the Taft-Hartley law. I would like to have a man like Professor Stevens coach me in it, because, being a union man, he is able to help all of us. In every district his Service will be glad to teach us all we can possibly learn about it.

We have had our problems since our last convention, many of which you know about, many of which are in the officers' reports, and some of which you know nothing. One thing I do know is that while these problems are important to each one of you, we have made quite a bit of headway. In the first place, we have been successful (with limited finances, and so on) in doing a pretty good piece of organizational work.

At the last convention we were still at war, and immediately after that various regulations and laws went out of existence. It seems that daily the officers of your International Union and your local officers had to learn new things. Negotiations immediately after the war became absolutely different from what they were during the war. During the war we had certain procedures to follow, certain boards to go to. After the war that all fizzled out, and we had to follow other procedures.

In the past two years, nevertheless, I believe I can safely say, and I think every delegate here knows because of his own local's negotiations and whenever officers have been in negotiations, that more substantial strides have been made not only in the body of the agreement, which is very important, but in wages, than in any other two-year period in the history of our organization.

It was done, I think, because we have a group of people who believe in their organization. If there is any honesty and sincerity in the ranks of labor in this country, you have been sincerely represented, as well as the rank and file members.

We don't have to worry about some of the things under the Taft-Hartley law that some people have to worry about. There are some, unfortunately, who are going to run into trouble because, as the Professor told us a while ago, they have been sitting in big plush seats, taking it easy and letting other people carry on the work. For the benefit of the Professor, we don't have any of those seats, and if they were available we wouldn't have time to sit in them.

I am not afraid of our local unions, especially the ones I have been in

close contact with in the three years I have served as your General President, and in the former nine years on the West Coast when I was your Vice-President. But a lot of people in the labor movement are a little worried.

We probably have built more stoves in the last two years than were ever built in this country by our members in any other two-year period, and at this moment we have the largest membership this International Union has ever enjoyed. From now on the trail is going to be mighty rough. From now on you and the incoming Executive Board are going to have to put added effort (a lot more) into the union work. No, it is not going to be easy any more to take a little circular, telling all the benefits of organized labor and of the Stove Mounters Union, attach a little card to it with a return address and a stamp, and have a man sign his name, and take it to the N. L. R. B. and file it for an election, and four or five days later have a meeting with the Board and the Employer, when the latter agrees to an election, and in four or five days have it all over.

It is going to be a lot tougher than that. The ramifications of organization I do not know of under the bill, but I know it is not going to be easy to do things any more. First, I don't think we are going to have any trouble with certain types of people who can no longer be International officers or representatives of the International Union or the local districts, because, as far as I know, we have never had that type of people in our organization. If they have been in our ranks I know nothing about them. If the law says you cannot get an election in a plant because there is a Communist officer in your ranks, I don't think we will have any trouble about that; but some people will. That is why some say they just won't go to the polls.

It is going to be a tough road for all of you, and also for your incoming Executive Board. Let nobody kid you about that! It is going to be a good scrap, and the old-timers in the labor movement, and people who believe in their local union with all their heart, will have nothing to fear. The only thing we have to fear is the people who are in that shop and carry the card only because they have to, and never have believed in it. They are the ones who might give us some trouble.

I think what our local unions need—and there will have to be some way to take care of it financially—is education of our rank and file members. No matter where I have gone throughout this country, with but a few exceptions, the local might have 150 or 200 members and still not have enough people present to open a meeting, only seven being required. Everything else but our movement seems to come first with them. Even if they have only one evening a month to attend, they have other plans for that night; they have to go bowling or fishing or something else. Usually they are happy to have two local meetings a month because then they have an opportunity to go out somewhere two nights a month, instead of to attend the union meetings, and they get away from the house for two evenings a month instead of one.

They don't seem to care much about local work. That situation has got to change in its entirety. The responsibility now is on the shoulders of the rank and file members. It won't be any to hard for you men to get your representatives thrown in jail, either. That will be an easy way to get rid of them (laughter); because the law is so set up that it won't be too hard, and from now on these representatives will have to shake in their boots.

In spite of everything I am not going to make more of a speech, because later on in various resolutions we will have a lot of discussion. I am happy to be here and to open this convention, and I am happy indeed to have heard the speakers we listened to this morning, including the Mayor and the gentleman from the Michigan State Federation of Labor and Professor Stevens.

It is time now to open this convention formally and take up whatever time we have left this morning on some of our work. At this time I call this convention to order. Brother Secretary, will you read the convention committee appointments.

[Secretary Edward W. Kaiser read the convention committee appointments]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The Chair wishes to announce that the Executive Board, in drawing up the various committees, saw fit not to pick a chairman of any committee. We feel that the delegates are quite able to pick their own chairmen, and therefore there will be no chairmen read as such; the members of the various committees will select their own chairmen. We think that is a proper way to do it, in order to give you complete democratic freedom.

**BROTHER BAKER:** May I interrupt to suggest that the Chair appoint one of the committee members on each committee to act as temporary chairman in order to get the various groups together?

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The suggestion has been made that we pick one man to get the rest of the committee together. We will take the first man on the list of each of the committees.

Brothers, do you want to continue with the roll call of delegates? It is nearly noon, and we must leave from the hotel at 1:30. What is your pleasure? The next order of business is the roll call. Shall we have the roll call? Mr. Secretary, we will have the roll call.

[Secretary Kaiser called the roll of the delegates]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Has the name of each delegate been called?

If there is no objection, we will adjourn until tomorrow morning at 10 A. M.

[The meeting adjourned at 12 o'clock noon]

## WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

July 16, 1947

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 A. M., President Joseph Lewis presiding.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Delegates, I am sorry we are a few minutes late, but we were to have Father Hackett here this morning for the invocation, and he has not arrived. He may be here a little later.

The convention will please come to order. We will have the roll call of delegates.

[Secretary Kaiser called the roll]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** We have some guest speakers this morning whom I think we are all going to enjoy hearing.

At this time I would like to call on Mrs. Paul Eisinger, President of the Michigan Federation of Women's Auxiliaries. (Applause)

**MRS. PAUL EISINGER:** Thank you, Brother Lewis. Officers, honored guests, delegates and friends: I want to extend greetings from the American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor as well as the Michigan Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor. We consider it an honor to be invited to speak to you for just a few minutes and to welcome you to this city. We are very proud and very happy to be partners with the American Federation of Labor and the Michigan Federation of Labor in this movement.

I think probably some of you have been here for several days, because yesterday when I came to Kalamazoo somebody asked me if I knew there was a convention of Stove Mounters here. I said I had been advised there was one. They couldn't understand what a stove mounter was, so I tried to tell them

that you made the stoves they use. They wondered what kind of an outfit this was.

They said the other night they were walking along Main Street and noticed a fellow looking up at the tall buildings and muttering to himself, "It can't be done. It just can't be done!" Finally they went up to him and asked, "Sir, what can't be done?" and the man replied, "Well, I'm Joe Lewis of the Stove Mounters' Union. In Michigan you certainly have the finest cities I've ever seen in my life; but there's a sign up there that says, 'Drink Canada Dry', and you know that can't be done!" (Laughter)

In St. Louis last fall at the Union Label and Industrial Exposition we were in attendance at the booth of the Michigan Federation of Labor and the Michigan Federation of Auxiliaries. It was my pleasure at that time to meet Brother Lewis, Brother Kaiser, Brother Segidin, and several of your officers. Those officers were doing a bang-up job for you. Mr. Kaiser did a good job. His wife knows a little bit about what it is all about, and she was there also.

I am supposed to talk to you about auxiliaries. One of the first questions I asked Mr. Lewis when I met him was, what about auxiliaries for the Stove Mounters locals? I would like to ask if there is a local here that has an auxiliary. Is there one represented here that has one? I guess you don't. Mr. Lewis told me he had sent out letters to locals suggesting that they organize auxiliaries. The response he got wasn't very good. I think some of them did say they might try it, but more of them said no.

You may have the wrong impression of the auxiliary movement. A lot of locals do have them. A lot of men in locals where we have auxiliaries also have the wrong impression. They don't know what we really do and what we really stand for.

In Michigan we have the Michigan Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor, and we meet at the same time the men do for our convention, but during the year we have a conference which is purely an educational conference. We have speakers on various subjects. Mr. Ornburn has been with us a number of times; his department is always represented. We have speakers on health problems, on compensation laws, on unemployment compensation, trying to educate the wives of union men to what the unions really stand for and what we can do to help them, also what their protection may be in case of injury or death to their husbands or sons or brothers.

I invited Mr. Lewis to attend one of our conferences last fall. He was unable to be there, for which we were sorry because we wanted him to have a little ammunition to fire at you fellows. He invited me here to talk to you. I didn't answer his letter because I had to find out first whether Brother Ornburn was going to be here. They say a woman can't keep still, but I did, and I guess it bothered your officers, because they called me long distance asking whether I would be here, and I assured them I would be. I insisted that

I be permitted to speak before Brother Ornburn, because he might otherwise steal my thunder.

There is an old saying, "God bless the women!" You can't live with them and you can't live without them. That is true in the labor movement just as much as it is in your own home community. The women play a very definite part in your every-day life. We might say they play a very important part in your working life. You married your wife because you thought she was the one who could make our life complete. She was the one who could round out your life, and she would be the ideal woman to raise your children.

You will have to realize that a lot of things you stand for were instilled in you by the education your mother gave you. She was the one who was your guide during the formative years of your life. You may have joined the union because your father belonged to it. You may have joined it because you went to work in a shop where you had to join it. I don't believe there

is a man or woman delegate here who joined it for those reasons. I think you joined the union because of the benefits you could derive from it, and if you stop to realize it, the benefits you have through your fights to get laws and regulations are your protection. You want those for your children. You don't want them to slide backward!

The first thing you as a union member should do is to know all about your union. Know its background; know its history; talk about it at home. I don't mean for you just to sit down and have a discussion about it, but as you are eating your meal or sitting around in the evening, drop a little hint about your union, about why it was organized, what it has done, how it has grown, the benefits you have derived from it, and let your youngsters know what the union has done for you. In that way you will educate your wife about unionism.

In the auxiliary movement, we try to tell the women those things, but one of the first places for them to learn about the individual union is in their own home, in an auxiliary to your craft. If you have a craft auxiliary, the women can take up the craft of your own organization. They will know what your working conditions are; they are not going to find out how much John Jones or Jim Smith make—we are not interested in that at all. We are interested in seeing that the union-earned money, that is, the money you earn through your union, is spent for union-made merchandise and sold and delivered by the service unions.

I just wonder if there is a delegate here who knows everything that is made by firms having contractual agreements with your unions.

VOICE: I think that is published in the Quarterly Journal, showing the fair and unfair organizations, if that is what you are getting at.

MRS. EISINGER: I mean the various stoves you make; the trade names of your stoves.

VOICE: That is published quarterly.

MRS. EISINGER: Your wives spend 85 to 95 per cent of the money you earn, and they may buy something that is not made in a union shop or in a shop where you have an agreement with your International or your locals, and therefore you are double-crossing your brothers in the movement. That is one of the main features of the auxiliary, to educate union wives and union men about where union-made products are made and sold. In the Michigan Federation of Labor, we specialize entirely on A. F. of L. labels. We want to back the A. F. of L. locals.

Another feature is legislation. The women belong to literary clubs, bridge clubs, sewing clubs, and so on. Unless your wife understands the labor movement and what it means, she is going to be influenced in her thinking by the women in these social groups, and you and I both know there is plenty of money spent to influence the women's vote. There is an organization, the Women's Party, spending plenty of money and working hard on the fair rates bill. All the A. F. of L. groups have fought that bill for years. The women's organizations in labor are fighting that bill. We try to educate the women along legislative lines so that when they vote they will not kill your vote.

Certainly the locals are giving information to the American Federation of Labor, the state federations through the International, but it does not get home to your wife. In the auxiliary movement we try to bring the legislative proposition home to them.

Brothers, you are going to need that a lot after the Taft-Hartley law. The women must know what they are talking about. We want them properly educated so they can go out and talk in their various church and social groups. We want them able to talk for labor, not against it, and they are influenced in these various groups because they are not given proper information about it.

Those are some of the reasons why we are active in the labor organizations and work with them. We don't want to work against them, and we want to work in partnership with them on whatever they may designate for us to do. There isn't one auxiliary I talk to where I tell them to try to run the union's business. We try to keep away from that. There have been times when the auxiliaries have been mixed up in the business of the locals, but we try to keep the women away from that and make them realize the women have a very definite job to do, as do the unions.

Getting back to buying power, if the women spend 85 to 95 per cent of

the money you earn, that power is the greatest economic weapon in the marketplace at any time. With it women and men should become as effective in their efforts to win better conditions as the union members themselves. The men of the labor movement tell me if they could bring the members of the auxiliaries and their friends to a full realization of their power, the cause of American Labor would be advanced by several decades. Men require the cooperation of women in domestics, social, educational, political and economic problems, and now they want help on labor problems. They desire to coordinate collective buying with collective bargaining.

I attended a conference a while ago in Battle Creek and one of the subjects discussed was the union shop and the closed shop. Not a man there had his wife with him, and not a woman there had her husband with her. Until you get the whole family united in the labor movement, you are not going to have a good closed shop, you are not going to have a good union shop, you are not going to have a good union. When the women of the family realize why you pay dues, what that money goes for, that you really go to the meetings for the benefit you derive from them, you will have a better attended meeting. You will be a better union man in your shop.

Let's all accept our responsibility, attend our meetings, become active in the affairs of our local auxiliary, have faith in our movement, vision to see ahead, and the determination to carry on.

Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: You have heard Mrs. Eisinger tell you about the benefits of the women's auxiliary. About two years ago, I contacted every local by letter and appealed to you to try to do something about this. The only reason why I wanted you to do something about it then was so that we could come to this convention and work out ways and means of building up women's auxiliaries.

Some ten or twelve years ago, we really started organizing in the labor movement. Had we had then auxiliaries in some of our locals where we had plenty of trouble, it would have been much easier to have settled our problems if the women had known what you as members of your local unions were confronted with. Education in that case would have done wonders. It will do wonders for the same reason Mrs. Eisinger has spoken about this morning.

I would like to know what, if anything, is bigger or greater than the buying power in this country by women. As you get home with your pay check she snatches it out of your hand; in fact, some wives go down to the shop and get it for you. (Laughter)

On shopping days your wife goes downtown with a purse full of money with which to buy goods. Some of the wives don't know enough even to ask for union label merchandise. If they were trained to be sure that they were buying union label goods, their power would be great, and we as stove workers have always fought hard for the union label. Can you visualize how many people buy stoves? Try to tell your wife that you are going to buy her next stove! She will tell you where to head in, because she wants to look at it, she wants to know the quality of it, how it looks, how it is going to look in the kitchen, and you won't have a thing to say about it.

We know the women buy most of the stoves sold in the United States; so isn't it important that we try to teach those women somehow?

Why don't we start in our own homes? It isn't only the women's auxiliaries; it's their friends and neighbors who don't belong to this organization who can be educated by your wives over the back fence. I hope the delegates to this convention will take heed of some of these things, because they are important, and in the future if we are to survive, as I see it, as labor organizations, we are going to have to get out a few votes in various elections. Of course, the wives vote too, God bless them!

Thank you, Mrs. Eisinger, for your talk this morning.

MRS. EISINGER: Thank you very much. The Michigan Federation of Auxiliaries will be glad to help you in any way, and I think I speak of the AFWAL, too. I hope there is a resolution brought in that will ask for an auxiliary in every local organization. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Delegates, the next speaker is a man who has helped our entire labor movement to a degree that is incomprehensible. He is a man whom everybody in the labor movement loves because he has done such a grand job for all of us.

We have sensed in the last three years that we could step into his office and ask favors that sometimes were hard to get, such as getting rooms for representatives in Washington, and so on, which was a tough thing to manage. Mr. Ornburn has always been there to assist us, and I haven't yet slept in the park in Washington, nor have any of the executive officers.

He has a message for you this morning that is important because we are a part of the Union Label Department of the American Federation of Labor. I think the Stove Mounters Union wants to remain a part of that great movement. Rather than say any more and perhaps steal some of his stuff, may I introduce to you Brother I. M. Ornburn, Secretary-Treasurer of the Union Label Department of the American Federation of Labor. (Applause)

MR. I. M. ORNBURN: Mr. Lewis, Secretary Kaiser, and friends: After the President got through introducing me I felt a little like the young fellow in a religious congregation. He sat through several services and listened to various speakers during a revival. He was a little confused about what to speak on, so he remarked, "Will someone in the congregation suggest a topic and what I shall talk about?" Finally a youngster in the back of the room arose and said, "I'll tell you what to talk about. Talk about one minute and sit down." (Laughter)

I have followed the progress of this Union as closely as I have followed the progress of any union in the American Federation of Labor. I want to publicly say to you that no executive officer in the A. F. of L. has given more time, thought and effort to building this organization than has your President. You have improved your working agreements throughout the entire jurisdiction of the International Union. You have increased your membership and you have placed the Stove Mounters International Union in a very prominent position in the American Federation of Labor.

I think that is due largely to the excellent leadership of President Lewis. His ability to understand the industry, to know what the industry can pay in wages and improved working conditions, and his knowledge of men, his selection of representatives in your organization, has gone a long way toward making you the strong organization you are building into.

I am not going to define or attempt to define the Taft-Hartley law. My very good friend Secretary Reid, of the Michigan State Federation of Labor, is to speak next. Rather than have any repetition, I am not going to define your duties under this law, other than to say this at the moment:

There are two things definitely known that you can legally do: You can publish a list of stove manufacturers under the caption, "WE DO NOT PATRONIZE." That you can do without any fear or hesitation of any punitive action being taken against you. You can publish a list of manufacturers under the caption, "WE DO PATRONIZE." Remember that in your local unions. Those are things that can fairly and definitely be done under the Act.

There is some hesitation about whether you can publish a list of unfair manufacturers. Some of the courts have held that a manufacturer may be unfair to the Stove Mounters International Union, but it may be that he may be considered fair by the courts concerning the union men or women who work in his plant; so if you publish any sort of list, either "WE DO PATRONIZE" or "WE DO NOT PATRONIZE," that is permissible under the Act. The other phases of the law I am going to leave to my good friend Jack Reid to discuss with you.

The Taft-Hartley law reminds me of the colored man who lived in my home town, by the name of Moe Davis. He had been a public charge upon the town for eleven years. Moe's wife had given birth to her eleventh child in eleven years, and the doctor representing the charitable group said to Moe after he delivered the eleventh child, "Moe, if you are responsible for Mrs. Davis having a twelfth child, I'm going to recommend that you be lynched!"

Ten months later, the doctor received a call to go to Moe's home, and sure enough, he delivered the twelfth child. He said to the oldest child, "Where is your daddy?"

"I don't know. When we called you to the phone he went out the back door."

"Go out and find your father; I want to talk to him," the doctor said.

After a while Moe came in, carrying a rope in one hand. The doctor said, "Moe, remember what I told you ten months ago?"

"Yassuh; you tol' me if I was responsible for my wife givin' birth to dis child you was gonna recommend I be lynched."

"Why didn't you follow my warning?" the doctor asked.

"Well, sir, I'll tell you. Come over here to de window. See dat apple tree right dere? See dat limb pointin' south? I went to dat apple tree a few minutes ago wid dis rope, thinkin' I was gonna hang maself. I climb up de tree and a spirit said, 'Moe, be careful. You may be hangin' an innocent man!' (Laughter)

That is how confused I am about the Taft-Hartley law. I might say something to you that might take an innocent man's life in your organization. When I think about this law I think about the time I joined the Cigar Makers International Union on January 1, 1908. We didn't have any Wagner Laws; we had laws in every state in the Union and in the Dominion of Canada, both written and unwritten. It was an interpretation of a judge as to what we could do and could not do that made the law in those days.

We had every cigar factory on the North American continent under a union shop agreement, using the union label of the Cigar Makers International Union. We did that without any written law.

My friends, when I hear people talk about folks not working in the shop without there being a signed agreement in that shop, I am reminded of the time when the North American continent, unionized in the best organization then known throughout the entire world, had not one single written and signed agreement with a single cigar factory in the country. We kept it unionized because we made union members out of every man and woman who worked in those factories.

You might as well make up your mind that the honeymoon is over, that the government of the United States is not going to organize any more factories, and that we will have to go back to our local unions and begin to preach the gospel of trade unionism, and inject that pioneer religion into our members today that was experienced during the life of Samuel Gompers and other outstanding leaders, who made the American Federation of Labor the greatest institution in the world.

When I hear people condemn the American Federation of Labor and refer to the racketeering that is within it, it makes my blood boil. We have fought and won two World Wars during the time of the majority of us sitting here in this convention, and in both of those wars under our system of free trade unionism we have provided the men, the equipment, the money to save democracy for the world within the last thirty years. No other country on the face of the earth practicing their isms could save their country, and they had to call upon us to produce all the necessities to win those two wars.

When these folks come from Russia with their soap boxes, and put them up on the streets of Kalamazoo and other cities in the country, and try to sell us an ism that has failed in their own country, I often wonder why some of us who know what has been done in this country can refrain from hanging them to the limb of that apple tree and getting rid of them. But no—we have practiced democracy in this country and it has proved itself. We have practiced it in our organization.

Concerning democracy within an international union, do you know what I would like to see this organization do, as a compliment to these men who have guided your organization so successfully in the last three years?

I would like to see every Stove Mounter contribute to the International Union, for the purpose of developing this organization, just the small sum which you have enjoyed as an increase in wages for one day. Just stop and calculate for yourself what these increases we have had mean collectively. Then you will quarrel about increasing the per capita tax to a local or the International?

My friends, that is carrying democracy to the extreme. I remember the time when we had so many volunteers in a local union that we couldn't use them all. I remember in my local union when I served my apprenticeship I was called upon to make a speech. I was playing professional baseball on the weekends, but I was floored when I was asked to make a speech, although I considered myself a "tough guy." My lips wouldn't open and I staggered and stuttered. I came to my senses long enough to remark, "Mr. President, I can't make a speech, but I would like to volunteer to serve on the Label Committee."

And the President said, "Of all the colossal nerve! I'll give you to understand, young man, that the Label Committee of this local of 29 members consists of three members. There are fifteen members waiting to serve on that Committee, and you'll take your turn as the sixteenth!"

There was no compensation whatever for serving on that Committee; it was a pleasure for those committee members to spend money out of their own pockets to make converts for the union label.

I am amazed to find that in our local union meetings there is hardly a quorum. I am not talking about the Stove Mounters, but for all the local unions. It is difficult for the officers to get out a quorum to conduct their meetings. It is a crying shame in view of what the trade union movement has done for people of America. In the last few years, I have heard some member get tough when he didn't like a motion passed by his International, and he says, "What do I care? The government got those conditions for me."

Every time I think of a speech Samuel Gompers made in my presence I think of this: What one friendly legislative body can give to the wage-earners

of America, an unfriendly body can take away from them, and more. If you are a conscientious member of your International there is no law in the land that can take your membership away from you or tell you how to spend your money.

We are angry because the Congress passed the Taft-Hartley law. I listen to my very dear friends predict what is going to happen on election day, 1948. I wouldn't make any prediction about that, because when we have difficulty getting our members out to their union meetings and participating in the affairs of their own union, I am not willing to predict that they will go to the polls in 1948 and vote against those men who imposed upon us the Taft-Hartley law. If that is to be done, then we have got to go back to our local unions and make union members out of our brothers and sisters who believe the government got the conditions for them.

The American Federation of Labor came into being and was built upon adversities. It wasn't built because the going was easy or good; it was built because of adversities. Times without number I have gone in and talked to members of various trades in places where we had to sneak down back alleys because we were afraid the local police would learn we were meeting to talk about organizing. We have come along to a point where your International Union can meet in the Masonic Temple of this city without fear of being molested. You travel across state lines and from Canada to this convention; you don't have to identify yourself at any state lines except the Canadian border.

Are we going to let an adversity like the Taft-Hartley bill destroy our trade union movement? I say NO for every person attending this convention! We are not going to be disheartened by the Taft-Hartley law, and as far as the Union Label Trades Department is concerned, we are not going to change our policy. Let the sponsors of the law change it for us if they can or if they dare!

What you delegates should do is to start a revival in your locals and try to make your members understand why they belong to the union, that it isn't an act of Congress that brought them into it, but that the union brought them into activity and brought about the better living conditions they now enjoy.

There is another matter I want to talk about to you. It was one of the contributing factors that helped the Cigar Makers International Union. This statement has been misinterpreted by audiences before now, and I want you to get it straight:

Too much democracy in the Cigar Makers International Union destroyed it. Mr. Gompers and Mr. Perkins wanted to set a pattern for all the trade unions in the world by demonstrating to them through the Cigar Makers International Union, of which they were both members, the application of real democracy.

My first pay check as a member of that Union—and, remember, this was back in January 1908, was \$7.50 for an 8-hour day. That was more money than the chief cashiers in the two local banks earned.

We went on building up our organization, improving the conditions of the workers. We had laws that took from the International officers the authority to do certain necessary things. For instance, if a local union in one town wanted to increase their wage scale, they could not vote in that local to do so without sending the matter to the International office in Chicago, and the International executive board could not approve the request nor disapprove it, but had to send that local union's request to each of the 550 local unions in the International for their approval or disapproval.

Every single request, regardless of the fairness of their demands, was approved. The Secretary would read, "I have an application from Local Blank in Kalamazoo to increase their wage scale 20 per cent. I move we adopt this local's application."

One of the members would arise and say, "Brothers, I am not sure, but that seems an unreasonable demand for an increase in wages. We ought to go slow and not approve it."

Another member would shout, "Why don't you sit down? What boss do you represent?"

He was charged with being in his employer's vest pocket, as the saying goes. So those raises went on and on until we reached the point where the manufacturers called in the International officers and said, "Gentlemen, we want to live under a union shop agreement, but we can't go along under this system. We have to install machinery, and we will sit down and work out a bill with you that will increase your take-home pay."

There was rebellion on the part of the Cigar Makers. No machinery could make cigars as well as they could be made by hand. The hell with the boss! As a result of the first World War and the increase in price of everything, the manufacturer said, "We will have a machine built. If we don't have the union, we will have it without the union," because our membership would not accept the recommendation of our International officers to install that machinery.

We could have talked our membership into accepting that, because of necessity; had we accepted that machinery we still would have had a great organization, and we still would be enjoying the fruits of that organization.

We have the same thing with our benefit system. We couldn't do anything about that because of that democracy within our ranks. The first year I served as President of the Cigar Makers in 1927—in 1926 we had assessed our members a total of \$5 for 1926 in order to meet our death benefit pledge, because we were not running our death benefits on a business-like basis. We were letting sentiment get the best of our business judgment. So we went on paying out claims until we were financially at the end of our rope. In 1927 we had to do something about it, so we called in an actuary and said, "What would it actually cost us in dues in order to carry on this benefit system?"

He worked out the cost on the basis we had given him, and we submitted it to our convention in 1927 and said, "Here it is; if you want this present benefit system, this is what it is going to cost you."

Men and women continue to grow old, and we haven't found anything yet that will keep us from growing old. The older we get, the more likely we are to pass away, and when we start passing away because of old age it begins to grip the international union which carries the benefit system, if the matter is not taken care of on a business-like basis.

What happened as a result of the Cigar Makers' experience? An organization was incorporated under the State of New York, operating under the New York insurance laws, known as Union Labor Life Insurance. We turned over our group insurance in 1928 to the Union Labor Life Insurance Company. This was what I found in 1927 before we turned over our benefit system to this company to be operated on a business-like basis:

Our rules were to the effect that if a member was in good standing in the Cigar Makers' International Union, the benefits would be paid. In 1927, we found eighty cases where a member had allowed his membership to lapse and then had passed away, and the beneficiaries came to the local financial secretary and said, "Jim, my brother was about nine days over the limit when he died. Will you take this money and put him in good standing?" That local secretary didn't realize that he was doing an injustice to the International; he thought the money would be coming from some manufacturers' association and that it wasn't doing the organization any harm.

We don't have the volunteers we had back in 1908 who can go out and do this work. We have to pay our members to attend labor union meetings and committee meetings, else we don't have their attendance and their help.

We might just as well realize with stern reality that we have to put our union on a safe, financial basis. We must pay our officers enough money so they can properly represent us. This thing of paying your officers the same as or less than the management working in the shop, my friends, is not right. It is not justice to your International officers. They must dress differently from the way they dress in the foundry; they have to meet men in public life, and they must do a certain amount of entertaining. That can be done only by increasing the per capita tax.

We must put the benefit system on a safe and sane financial basis. If you don't it will wreck your organization, as it financially wrecked the Cigar Makers' International Union and a lot of lodges too numerous to mention. You remember the Woodmen of the World and some of those old line lodges that your fathers belonged to because of the benefits paid. They collapsed because they were not on a solid financial basis.

You may think I am scolding you. I don't mean to; I think these warnings are proper at this time because of the Taft-Hartley law.

The most important thing in this law is that we must try to increase the interest in local unions so that we have not only a quorum but a well-attended meeting, so they will know what their duties are to the organization. They owe that duty to themselves.

My friends, if you are going to depend upon the Congress of the United States to do the things that organized labor was organized to do, you must be prepared to elect 435 Congressmen every two years and one-third of the Senators every two years. We have to go to them, and say, "Mr. Senator, will you vote for this legislation if you are elected to office?" and that senator will find some way to say "Yes" and "No" at the same time. Talk about a leopard changing his spots! My friends, I have seen more of those slippery senators and congressmen change their minds overnight after the votes were counted on election day! How quickly they change, and how easily they give us the run-around in the Congress when we go to see them!

If you have a strong union, such as you are building, those congressmen and senators can make up their minds to whatever they wish—with our organization and spending power we might just as well say, "In order to have a Congress that will be friendly to the members of the A. F. of L., from today on we are going to spend all of the trade union money for union label merchandise and union services." It would be nice if we could do both; if we could direct 25 per cent of our earning power into the channels of union-made and union services. I don't care anything about the Taft-Hartley law. It would be as easy to do that as it would be to elect 435 or a majority of congressmen and a majority of representatives.

I want to say just a word about what Mrs. Eisinger said. I think that is one of the weakest links in the American Federation of Labor. It is like trying to pull a two-horse load with one horse, to organize the earning power of the household without organizing the spending power of the household. How ridiculous it is for you to take home the pay you earned under union conditions, turn it over to your wife, mother or sister or daughter whom you have neither taught nor trained about unionism, and let her go to the market and spend that money for whatever she wants to buy!

The first intuition of a woman is to save. Set up a budget and make it go as far as it can. If you don't teach her, she will go downtown and buy the cheapest kind of nonunion-made merchandise, thinking she is doing you a favor. She is helping to destroy your union, instead. It isn't her fault; it is our fault because we have said that her place is in the kitchen.

You have entrusted her with the responsibility of developing the future manhood and womanhood of America. No greater responsibility could be thrust upon a woman. Still you have not encouraged her to join an auxiliary so that she can help to pull this two-horse load.

I was called to New York not long ago. I think this demonstrates why there aren't more auxiliaries. Brothers, if the shoe fits you will have to wear it. A lady said to me, "Will you come to New York City and talk about a woman's auxiliary?" So I went and met her and the committee. She said, "Mr. Ornburn, we used to have an auxiliary in my town, but the men destroyed it." I said it didn't seem possible. Ten years ago that local union had a minimum wage of \$65 a week. No organization that could build a union with a minimum wage of \$65 a week would destroy an auxiliary. I couldn't understand it.

That afternoon I looked up the president of the local union and I said, "Eddie, did your local union here destroy the auxiliary?" He said, "I am sorry to say they did. We have a minimum wage here of \$65 a week. The men had told their wives their wages were \$45 a week, not \$65. The women learned the men were holding back \$20 a week—so the men had to get rid of the women!" (Laughter)

There are many things the labor movement has done, for which no one gives them credit. People talk about racketeers. I was in a city not long ago, and all the front pages of the newspapers blared out in headlines, "X sent to the federal penitentiary for 3 to 6 years!" I knew X well, and I read the article. He had been sentenced for misappropriating \$1,000 of the union's money.

I turned over to the third page of the same newspapers and I found that Mr. Harriman had been convicted of robbing orphans and widows of 20 million dollars, and that he had been sentenced to from 6 to 12 months in the state penitentiary. It was all right, as far as the pests were concerned, that Mr. Harriman robbed widows and orphans of 20 million dollars, but we got on the front page because one of our officers fell by the wayside and misappropriated \$1,000.

I don't mention that case in order to justify the misappropriation of the funds; I merely mention it to show what the press will do when comparing such happenings with happenings in the labor movement. Naturally, the eyes of the entire country are upon our officers, and I daresay you are blessed with a fine set of officers. May they be with you for many years to come.

The Union Label Department in this program, and then I will be through: We have discovered that when writing articles only a certain few members read and digest them. We have found that through pictures and the radio and by exhibitions we can tell the story of the Union Label Trades Department, the union manufacturers and the unions affiliated with the Union Label Trades Department, better than by any other means. Last year, with the help of your officers in St. Louis, and with the help of Jack Reid and other friends of the Union Label Trades Department, in one of the finest auditoriums in America, for five days we actually sent through those halls 305,000 people, during a three-day cloudburst, and it got so crowded that the Fire Department ordered the hall closed, and we had to have police there to prevent people from breaking down the doors. They wanted to see what management and labor were doing in cooperation with each other. They wanted to see the product of your manufacturers. They wanted to learn what your International Union was doing in this labor-management program. It was such a huge success that we are going to repeat it next May in Milwaukee.

Mark this prediction: We will beat that attendance mark in Milwaukee; we will beat the number of exhibitors we had in St. Louis. We want your International and as many of your manufacturers present in Milwaukee as we can persuade to come and show the product of the members of this International Union.

I am dazed by the seriousness of the expression on your faces. Here you are, for the purpose of doing the best you can to make this organization stronger, to help it grow, so you can meet these conditions imposed upon you by this new law. Let us not get hysterical; let us move cautiously. Many of

the provisions in this law, the real purpose of which will never be known until the courts and the new National Labor Relations Board begin to make decisions, will affect you tremendously. Remember this: The stronger your local union, the stronger your International Union, the more powerful the American Federation of Labor, the more quickly we will overcome whatever objections there are embodied in the Taft-Hartley law, and we know there are a lot of objections to it.

I wonder sometimes about the conscience of the men and women who do not belong to this organization, who are eligible. I remember well when there wasn't one workmen's compensation law in any of the states in the Union. The organized workers in the American Federation of Labor that brought about workmen's compensation laws in the states did a wonderful job. The non-union man who did not contribute anything in the way of dues, benefits by those laws the same as you and I. His conscience should hurt him. Our conscience should hurt us if we lose a single opportunity to place our appeal before every man and woman who works for wages and who does not belong to a union.

The trade union movement should come first. God bless you. It has been a pleasure to be with you, and I can't close without paying my respects to one of your special representatives. For three years, under the most trying conditions in the city of Washington, as a member of the Advisory Committee of the A. F. of L. in connection with the Office of Price Administration, we have had as an A. F. of L. liaison representative none other than your special representative, Leo Lucas. It would take an indefinite period of time for me to tell you the many contributions he made to the O. P. A. for the protection of you folks who were working and going to the marketplace and paying black market prices for goods. We learned to respect and love him, and I am glad to see that instead of taking many lucrative positions placed before him from other organizations, he chose to come back and help Joe Lewis and Ed Kaiser in further strengthening your Union.

Thank you and good-bye. (Applause)

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Ornburn, for your inspiring message. I can say positively that the incoming Executive Board will support you to the fullest extent in your exhibition to be held in Milwaukee in May of 1948. We know how hard you have worked for it. We will be there, I assure you. I want to thank you also for something special that you brought to us today concerning your International Union, which fits in with ours. I know the delegates will take heed, and it has been an education to all of us. Thank you again.

We have one more speaker this morning. He is well known to the Michigan delegates. I am very happy to present to you Brother John Reid, Secretary of the Michigan Federation of Labor. (Applause)

**MR. JOHN REID:** Mr. President, officers and delegates to this convention: I bring you the fraternal greetings of the Michigan Federation of Labor. We hope you will have a very pleasant and successful convention.

You heard Mrs. Eisinger speak about auxiliaries. I was surprised that a union which belongs to the Label Trades Department and uses the label does not have auxiliaries.

Mr. Ornburn said he would not tell you about the Taft-Hartley law; neither shall I, because I don't know all there is to be known about it, and I haven't found anyone else who knows, either. I was in Washington last week and I learned that they are very confused about it there, too. (Laughter)

Since the Taft-Hartley law passed I have been at many meetings, and I have heard many labor men speak and blame Mr. Taft and Mr. Hartley and many others for the law. I think they are blaming the wrong people. We are

to blame for this law. The laboring people of this country are to blame. I haven't got my fingers on the last election figures, but I did look at the figures on the 1928 election, and 44 per cent of the eligible voters voted—and still Hoover was elected! Prosperity was just around the corner following that election, the longest corner I ever saw in my life. It took a war to get us around that corner.

There was even more laxness in the last election. We have depended too much upon legislation these last twelve years to carry on our union business, and because of that the government is moving in both into the union business and into the management business. They are going to continue to move in, and if that is the case then we have also got to have some say-so on who we send there to represent us.

Mr. Ornburn told you one thing you can do under this Taft-Hartley law. This law is full of things you cannot do, and one thing is that labor unions cannot publish the record of congressmen or senators. I understand that A. F. of L. is going to publish them. If you can't get those records from the A. F. of L. you can get them from my office, because no government is going to tell me what I can publish from my own office! (Applause)

I am not an American citizen by choice; I am not here by accident. I have read the Constitution of the United States. The 1st Amendment and the 4th Amendment in the Bill of Rights gives everyone in this country, whether a citizen or not, the right of free speech and free press. No law is going to tell my office what I can publish and what I can't publish. They may bring me up under the libel law, but they can't tell me I can't publish a record for the people who belong to my organization when they pass such a vicious anti-labor bill.

I am going to pay no attention to that law. We had a convention in Marquette two weeks ago. The boys said, "What about you?" "Well, I understand they still feed them in prison, so what? A lot of old-timers in the labor movement went to jail in order to build this movement. Dick Ornburn told you about his experience in 1908. When I started organizing we couldn't even go into a town on a train; the chamber of commerce and the manufacturers were the reception committee and beat up any labor organizer who got off the train, so we would get off two stations back and come in on a farmer's wagon. You don't know what it is to be handled roughly. I know you have had a few strikes; you had the ABC strike here in Battle Creek some years ago, in which Cap Hanson of the State Police got tough. I got tough too, and I raised so damned much hell in the Governor's office that they called the cops off.

It is nice if you can work with people without having to get tough, but if they get tough then we have also got to get tough. We would like to go back to the old days in the labor movement when we slugged it out, if necessary, with the folks who opposed us.

In the last twelve to fifteen years a newcomer in the labor movement has had a lot of protection. Now you are losing that protection under the Taft-Hartley law. They also tell us there are a lot of things we can't do. Some lawyers refer to this law as the National Labor-Management Bill, and other lawyers call it the Lawyers' Full Employment Bill. (Laughter) Unless you sit tight and keep calm and wait for your International office to advise you on your problems, you may get into a jam and run to some local lawyer. Most of the lawyers don't know a darned thing about labor legislation, and a lot of them know nothing about law. I know, because I meet them in the legislature.

We have just come through the toughest session in our legislature since twenty-one years ago. Some of the things the lawyers brought up were so ridiculous that if it hadn't hurt our people it would have been laughable. Some of the anti-labor laws they introduced were downright silly. We have a Governor who is a lawyer. He says he comes from Battle Creek; he actually

comes from Hastings.

I wrote Governor Sigler that some of the anti-labor bills passed in Michigan were so contradictory that even the lawyers didn't like them. He said, "We will fix them up in the next session." The trouble with lawyers is that they don't know too much about law. They read Shepard's Annotations and they go back and look things up. Legal advice isn't worth a damn to a labor man unless he can apply it to his philosophy and his own problem; so be very careful about getting legal advice from local lawyers.

They all have this sort of philosophy: A fellow used to be a judge in a state out west where I lived. He always ruled in behalf of the vested interests. Finally, we got the boys stirred up and we retired him to private life. (Laughter) Taking care of the manufacturing interests gave him a job, and after he "retired" they gave him a job as cashier in a local bank. After he had been in the bank for two or three weeks a man came in bearing a large check to be cashed. The judge said, "We can't cash that size check without proper identification." The fellow pulled out his papers and cards and showed them to the judge. He replied, "That isn't sufficient identification for cashing a check this size."

The man with the check said, "Judge, when you were on the bench, you used to sentence men to death on less evidence than this."

"Maybe so, maybe so," the judge replied, "but when you're handing out money you have to be careful." (Laughter)

That is the philosophy that many judges have. Lawyers seem to have the idea that to be a judge you have to be a lawyer, and the lawyers in this State have a closed shop by law. The better lawyers bring in bills to abolish the closed shop. Some of the lawyers say the closed shop is abolished under the Taft-Hartley law. That is not correct. If you have a closed shop which was in force before January 23 of this year, and if it is in a continuing agreement, it renews itself automatically every year unless you open the agreement for a change; you can still keep the closed shop under this law, but if you open up the agreement after August 27th then the closed shop is illegal from then on. There is a dispute among lawyers as to whether you can open up the section on wages without affecting the whole agreement. So if you have a closed shop agreement, don't be in a hurry to open the agreement without first securing some advice. Send the section which you want reopened to the International office, and if you wish you can send it to my office and we will give you advice on whether you will lose the closed shop contract or not.

You can have a closed shop if you get 51 per cent of the bargaining unit.

As Dick Ornburn said, the honeymoon is over. Instead of letting George do it, you must do a little yourself. In the old days of the labor movement we weren't nearly as well equipped as we are now. We had the same kind of laws as we have now. If three people got together in labor they would try to arrest them for conspiracy. Kaiser and some of the old-timers have had so many injunctions handed to them that they laugh about it. We had a Grand Jury investigation in Michigan recently. All the lobbyists came to me and said, "What are you going to do about the Grand Jury?" I said, "The guy who was the Grand Jury prosecutor is now Governor. I'm going to do nothing. They can only put me in jail. What are you so worried about?" (Laughter)

I happen to be a member of the Unemployment Compensation Commission, and they served some papers on me at home. My wife doesn't pay any attention to them any more.

There are a lot of things in the Taft-Hartley law that are bad, but they actually won't mean anything if we behave ourselves and fight as union people. There are some things in the law that will be very annoying. One of them is that you can't have an employer under either a closed or a union shop, fire one of your members for anything except his non-payment of dues or initiation

fees. He can be the biggest rat or the biggest stool-pigeon in the whole country, and you can expel him from the union under this law, but you can't make the employer fire him.

That is a bad feature. In other words, we can no longer discipline our own members. There are a lot of other angles to this law, and I am not going to go into them because I haven't had time to sit down and study them. The bill was passed while we were in convention. Your general officers know how tired a secretary is when the convention is over; he has to clear up many things he didn't have time to handle in normal times. I have been busy, and I also have just come through a session of the legislature, and I must take time to analyze this law.

There is one section that says government employees cannot strike without losing their seniority. Another clause says we have to have 51 per cent of the membership vote for a strike before they can strike. The election must be held by the mediation board, and the union must pay the cost of the election.

So we're going to have a lot of fun in Michigan. The Board is going to have such a headache when I get through with them, that they will wish they never heard of us. I was in Lansing the day before yesterday and I asked them what the regulations are going to be under this law. They said, "We don't know. Our lawyers are still looking at it."

We have only seven minor amendments to our bill, and the Taft-Hartley law, when it was printed, was 63 pages long. Now they have it in small type and it requires 30 pages of 6-point type.

There is another provision in the law that may interest some of your folks. The National Labor Relations Board may waive jurisdiction when a state has a more stringent law. I understand there are several states that are a little worse off than some others. The union members in those states will want to come under the Taft-Hartley law instead of their state law. That is another complication.

I happen to be a member of the building trades union, and under the old N. L. R. B. we were not under the N. I. R. A. because we didn't consider we were in interstate commerce. We don't know whether we will be under this law or not; the Board doesn't know, either.

As the Chairman of the Board said last week in Washington, "Our lawyers are looking at it." So we may get legal advice, but there is one thing I must impress upon you:

It is all right to secure legal advice, but watch out how you apply it! The lawyers know very little about the law; they know nothing about the labor movement or the philosophy of the labor movement, and they know very little about labor relations. I met a fellow in Lansing last Friday who was indicted in Detroit for following legal advice from a lawyer in Washington. The legal advice is all right as such, but there are a lot of things you legally can do without the Taft-Hartley law, but they will get you into so much trouble that you shouldn't follow them.

For instance, if you come to a stop at an intersection for a red light, and when the light turns green there is a huge truck that hasn't cleared the intersection, you have the right-of-way; but you would be a damned fool to drive your car into the side of that truck! (Laughter)

That is very simple. So when you get legal advice, be very careful before you apply it. People say to me, "Why don't you hire a lawyer in the Michigan Federation of Labor?" I never hire a lawyer except when I have to go to court, and even then I have to prepare the case for him, because as a general rule, he doesn't know a damned thing about it. (Laughter) And they have the nerve to charge \$100 a day, because they happen to be a member of a closed shop union and they won't let me work at it, and I don't happen to know much

about court procedure! I brief the case and I tell him how it is going to be fought; otherwise we wouldn't win. They have the silliest idea about labor that I ever heard of. Lawyers drafted this law, you know. General Motors are moving heavily into all this sort of legislation.

I was supposed to be here yesterday morning, but I couldn't make it because General Motors are moving in on the unemployment compensation of Michigan to try to prevent unemployed people from getting their rightful benefits under the Act. I didn't get away in time to be here yesterday morning.

They had two men in Washington who helped draft this Taft-Hartley law. They want to wreck the labor movement. They tried that after the last war. The old-timers will remember that they set up an organization to "bust" the A. F. of L. in 1920. The C. I. O. wasn't in existence then. They didn't have any law to protect them so they could organize, and they had to wait until we passed the law for them. They tried then, and set up a special organization; the National Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers set up a special organization with headquarters in Cleveland in 1920, for the purpose of tearing down the American Federation of Labor, and their purpose was to put it out of business.

What happened? Our membership went down in some places. The going was tough. I was out, myself, for nine months in 1921, but I didn't starve. I am a lot older than most of you fellows; I'm over sixty, and I've never starved as yet.

So you don't have to worry about starving -- somehow you always come through. You may have to give up many things, but if you allow your organization to lapse and if you allow the government to tell you what you can do, then you really are finished. If you blame the Taft-Hartley combination for this bill, you are passing the buck. You are as much to blame for it -- I am as much to blame for it -- as Taft and Hartley. The people in Battle Creek and Kalmazoo -- who did they send to Congress? Ask them! (Laughter and Applause) They had his record before the last election, but they said, "Let George do it."

Mrs. Eisinger and Mr. Ornburn both pointed out that you are only using one arm when you organize your household for wages and working conditions. Until you begin to use the other arm in spending the money you earn, you won't get anywhere.

I am happy standing here today without a white shirt. The rest of the boys here have white shirts. The reason I haven't a white shirt is because I have only a few left and I have to save them for special occasions. I told my haberdasher that I wanted a white shirt six months ago, and I added, "When you get some white shirts with a union label, give me a ring." I haven't heard from him since then.

I went out to buy a straw hat the other day. The clerk shook his head and said, "I have straw hats, but not one with a union label in it." He carried Van Deusen brand shirts, but he said they are so busy in that shop they haven't time to sew a union label in them. I said, "Too bad; but without the label I don't want the white shirts or the straw hat." Because of some alibi on the part of the employer that it costs 1 cent more to put in the union label, they won't do it because there is such a demand for the goods and not enough people are demanding the label. If we did demand it we would get labeled shirts.

I have been buying labeled shirts in that store for the last fifteen years. I haven't a straw hat this summer because I can't find one with a union label in it. I'll go bareheaded first!

That is the philosophy you must instill into the minds of the members of your union, and your wives and families, else you are not going to win this

fight.

They are cracking at every piece of legislation we have had in the last twenty-five years. They want to abolish unemployment compensation. The boy's won't have anything with which to buy milk and groceries for their children if that happens.

In the legislatures we have had an unemployment compensation bill passed through the Senate. It came out on a Friday. The following Monday there were six General Motors' lawyers there, and they worked for a week on that bill.

About a year and a half ago a fellow named Scovall, who used to be an economist for the Kaiser Company, formed a group known as the Society of Sentinels. They formed for the purpose of going back to the good old days when there were no unions to amount to anything in the automobile and other mass industries. In those days 500 people a day were looking for jobs. Steve DeBrule of General Motors, the man working on the Taft-Hartley law, was advertised as vice chairman of the Society of Sentinels.

I had a lot of fun with him. When General Motors came in we appeared before the Committee, and the Chairman said, "Where did this amendment to the bill come from?"

I replied, "It came from the Society of Sentinels." I have a memory like an elephant for things like that. I said, "All these men are members of the Society of Sentinels, organized to break the labor organizations so they can exploit labor to the fullest extent."

The machinery of both parties works for only one thing -- they're out to skin you. The Republicans prefer to skin you from the head down, and the Democrats prefer to skin you from the feet up. (Laughter) They both agree, however, that the workers should be skinned.

If you men get into any legal difficulties with this or any other bill, let us know and we will try to dig up the information for you. I don't have the answers to all the \$64 questions, but I know where to get most of them. The day the law was passed I got home at 6 a. m. and at 6:30 a. m. I had a phone call from a man upstate who wanted a copy of the bill and my explanation of it. Nobody knew except the enrolling clerks just what the law contained. Monday morning the enrolling clerks pulled all the amendments together and sent them to the printer, and after that we had some idea what was in that law. The legislature itself had no idea until then what was in the bill; they generally don't know.

Most people think legislators know what they are passing. They don't; they refer a bill to a committee, and the committee brings in a report, and the legislators go along with the report. They don't know what was in the bill. A man in the legislature in Lansing once made a boast that he never read a bill. Every once in a while the clerk would call out, "Mr. Wheeler offers the following amendment to House Bill so-and-so." Mr. Wheeler boasted that he never read a bill, so how could he amend it? John Lovett of the Michigan Manufacturers Association typed those amendments and handed them to Mr. Wheeler; that's how legislation is passed.

Most lawyers don't know how to draft a bill, yet the ordinary man on the street has the idea that if he sends a lawyer to the legislature that lawyer knows how to draft a bill. If I had my way I would pass a law saying it was unfair and not right to send a lawyer to the legislature, for this reason:

If you send a lawyer to Congress or the legislature he sticks with the vested interests, because they can get him a job. We had a man who fought us for years in the House on unemployment compensation, and the Michigan Manufacturers got him a job as secretary to one of the automotive manufacturers down there. He carried the ball for them for four years. We can't give those jobs, but the manufacturers can.

We have more votes in one local union in Battle Creek or Kalamazoo, for instance, than all the chambers of commerce and manufacturers and bankers put together. If we would use those votes properly we could make those legislatures, both state and national, behave so well that you wouldn't have to worry about such things as the Taft-Hartley law.

Bill Green says they are going to defeat all these fellows who voted for the law. He made the same statement in the last election when the Case bill was defeated. The fellow who represents this district voted for the Case bill, and yet you sent him back. You defeated very few such men.

You are people, along with the rest of labor, who are responsible for the Taft-Hartley law, and all other forms of anti-labor legislation. I don't care whether you accept that responsibility or not -- I am laying it in your lap. If you want it removed from your lap, then every one of you will go back to your own communities, look up the records of the people who were in Washington and see what they did on this and other bills, and if they don't get out and work and build from now on until the primary election in September next year, it will still be in your lap, and I don't give a damn whether you like it or not -- that's where it will be.

Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Reid. It was a pleasure for all of us to hear you. We know the secretaries of the state federations have their troubles, especially with legislation. I have had the occasion to be very close to one of them for some years, and I know they have a tough job. We appreciate your being here, whether you wear a white shirt or not. (Laughter)

We also appreciate the fact that when you said this Taft-Hartley law is a great thing for attorneys, you hit the nail squarely on the head, because it is going to be a field day for them. In spite of that I don't think we are going to get our feathers too ruffled over it. I believe good, genuine labor organizations are going to take care of it, and eventually we will be back where we should be.

Ladies and gentlemen, this concludes the speakers for this morning. You have received copies of the resolutions presented so far to the Secretary. Those were sent to the office of the Secretary thirty days prior to the convention and others came in last night and this morning.

I would like to have the delegates express their opinion as to whether we should read every resolution now before us, or whether it will be sufficient to have the Secretary turn them over to the proper committees, who will read them when they bring in their recommendations. We could save a lot of time that way.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I move we send the resolutions to the committees, and accept or reject their recommendations after discussion.

BROTHER BAKER: I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried unanimously]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The Secretary will call the numbers of the resolutions and state to which committee they are assigned.

[Resolutions 1, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 26, 28, 37, 45 and 47 were referred to the Resolutions Committee, and Resolutions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 44 and 46 were referred to the Constitution Committee]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: May we have the report of the Rules Committee.

BROTHER H. M. BOWMAN (Local 74): The report of the Rules Committee is as follows:

"1—The hours of meeting shall be from 9 a. m. to 12 noon and from 1:30 p. m. until adjournment by motion.

"2—When a delegate rises to speak on a question he shall address the President or Chairman, give his name and local number and city, and shall confine himself to the subject before the convention.

"3—Delegates addressing the convention shall not be allowed more than five minutes at any time.

"4—No delegate shall be allowed to speak more than once on a question until all those who wish to speak have had the floor. No delegate shall be allowed the floor more than twice unless by a majority vote of the convention.

"5—All questions are to be decided by an "aye" and "nay" vote except when a rising vote be taken, or roll call vote demanded by a delegate.

"6—A delegate present shall be entitled to a local's full vote.

"7—The above rules may be changed by a two-thirds vote of the convention.

"8—Extra night sessions, if necessary, may be called by the Chair."

BROTHER THOMAS SMITH (Local 90): I move we accept the report.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: Second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried, unanimously]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The Secretary has some communications to read to the delegates.

SECRETARY KAISER: We have a telegram from the International Brotherhood of Foundry and Metal Employees wishing us a most successful convention.

The following telegram is from William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor: "I extend to officers and delegates in attendance at convention of Stove Mounters International Union of North America fraternal greetings and best wishes for a successful convention. Regret my engagements and work are such as to prevent me from meeting with you. The fight which labor made to prevent the passage of the notorious Taft-Hartley bill must now be continued until we secure its repeal and defeat of members of Congress who voted for it. I sincerely hope your convention will pledge itself to carry out this purpose and policy. Please rely upon continued support and cooperation of American Federation of Labor in all your work and in administration of affairs of your International Union."

While I am up at the microphone, I want to say that the printer worked on our resolutions until midnight last night and then started on our report or daily summary. The summary is incorrect in many respects with regard to his printing set-up. We will have a complete, detailed verbatim report printed after the convention, and enough copies will be sent for membership of all locals. Corrections will have been made and the details of the meetings will be correct.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Are any committees ready to report at this time? How about the Union Label Committee?

MRS. ESTA STANCROFF: (Local 5): The Committee met and would like to recommend that the rules on the union label be suspended for the duration of this convention, inasmuch as it is hard to obtain clothing with the union label in it.

I move the adoption of the report.

BROTHER SMITH: I second the motion, and I hope this convention will

carry it through.

BROTHER FRANCIS GENOTTE (Local 32): I think we should remember the remarks made this morning by the various speakers. We are not going to get union labels on items unless we ask for them. Sometimes it may be necessary to refuse to buy things.

BROTHER JACOB SEGIDIN (Local 96): I disagree with the Union Label Committee. We are dispensing with one of the most important points in our Constitution.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I appreciate the remarks of the Chairman of the Committee and her recommendation. Somebody said they can always tell when there is a union convention in town because the delegates ask for the union label. Seven hundred stoves a day are being built, and every one carries the union label. However, I believe we should accept the recommendation of the Committee. We can have the courtesy to ask for the union label, at least.

BROTHER MELVIN CHADDERTON (Local 60): In St. Louis they had to show the labels they had. We should either endorse the union label or take the policy off our books. We ought to ask to see what labels the stores have.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: We will have the report of the Credentials Committee.

BROTHER HERBERT SCHMIDT (Local 4): The Credentials Committee has checked all credentials and found them in order. I move that the delegates be seated.

BROTHER BOWMAN: I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried, unanimously]

BROTHER MELVIN J. BOOKER (Local 54): This is the second day of what is to be a five-day convention and was scheduled as a three-day convention. Practically all of our business is still before us. You should realize that we can't handle all the entertainment on the program and all the business, too. I know Brother Lewis did not want to take it upon himself to cancel any entertainment. Some of you folks are scheduled to be back on your jobs at certain times, and unless the business of this convention goes on you will have to leave before it is over, else we will not complete the business of the convention. Two days have already gone by and 99 per cent of the work is still ahead of us.

I would like to hear an expression from the other delegates regarding the conduction of the business and the time to be spent on entertainment. I certainly do not want to disappoint the Entertainment Committee, but I am sure everyone will agree with me that the business of this convention comes before the entertainment.

MRS. STANCROFF: I agree with Brother Booker. We might dispense with the tour this afternoon and continue with the business at hand.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: Mr. President, I do think we should get down to the business before us.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Brothers, there are more than 55 resolutions to be considered, and the committees must find time to work on them. How are we going to do all of it? The Secretary informs me there are 67 resolutions before the convention.

Would either of the committees be able to make a partial report this afternoon even if we dispensed with the tour?

BROTHER COOPER (Local 74): What business could we transact this

afternoon if we did meet? We are hungry, too, and I would like to have lunch. I don't want to have to call the committees together to work during the noon hour.

VOICE: Let's convene tomorrow morning at 8 a. m. Fifty per cent of the resolutions are duplicates of each other. We can eliminate half of them in two hours' time. If we show these delegates the fine stove plant we have here, and if we meet early in the morning, we will still have as many hours for union business as we have ever had before. In that way we can have our meetings and still have a little pleasure. (Applause)

BROTHER WILLIAM FOGLESON (Local 74): I move that the rules be suspended and that we call our meetings at eight o'clock in the morning on Thursday and Friday.

BROTHER SMITH: What about the motion to accept the report of Sister Stancroft?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I am sorry; it is my fault that we overlooked it.

[The report of the Union Label Committee was put to a vote and was carried]

[The motion to convene at eight o'clock on Thursday and Friday mornings was put to a vote and was carried, unanimously]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Is there any further business to come before us at this time? If not, we stand adjourned until eight o'clock tomorrow morning.

[The meeting adjourned at 12:45 P. M.]

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## THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

July 17, 1947

The meeting reconvened at 8:20 A. M., President Joseph Lewis presiding.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The convention will come to order and the Secretary will call the roll.

[Secretary Kaiser called the roll]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Before we go into the business of the morning I want to introduce a man whom you all know very well. He was formerly a Vice-President of the Stove Mounters' International Union; he was the Enamel Vice-President for some time. I know that most of the southern delegates know him well, because he worked down there for a long time.

This brother has come a long way since he left us, and was instrumental not only this year but last year in the settlement, as a conciliator, of most of the telephone strikes in the country. It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you, Brother A. E. Johnson, Commissioner of Conciliation. (Applause)

[Mr. Johnson's remarks were off the record at the request of the President]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Johnson. We have had hundreds of conciliation cases in the past three years, and the Conciliation Service has been of great service to us. We thank you for being here, Tony, and thank you for your inspiring talk.

I believe the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee is ready to make a partial report. Brother Badgley.

BROTHER GEORGE BADGLEY (Local 4): Before I begin the report I

want to take this opportunity to thank the members of my Committee for their splendid cooperation yesterday during the meeting. I have never been on a committee I enjoyed working with more than this one. We have had quite a number of arguments, but they were friendly arguments.

As I read the resolutions I shall make a brief comment as to why we have taken the action on these resolutions, and I want any member of the Committee to feel free to add further explanation if he so desires.

[Mr. Badgley read resolution No. 1]

BROTHER BADGLEY: The Committee feels that everything in this resolution is true, that our monthly dues stamp will be much cheaper, and also we feel that a committee of the Executive Board would be in much better position than the delegates to this convention in devising a dues stamp or dues book.

Therefore, the Committee endorses this resolution, and I move concurrence in the Committee's report.

BROTHER BEAUDIOIN: I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

BROTHER BADGLEY: Resolution 8. Regarding this resolution we had a discussion, and we feel this is not a resolution for the International to handle.

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 8]

BROTHER BADGLEY: We feel this matter should be left to local autonomy, as we do have different conditions in different locals regarding the handling of working foremen, and therefore the Committee nonconcurs in this resolution, and I move that the convention concur in the recommendation of the Committee.

BROTHER BEAUDIOIN: I second the motion for non-concurrence.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 9]

BROTHER BADGLEY: We will not ask the convention to take any action on Resolution 9 this morning; this will be sent back to the Committee for further consideration, and we ask the sponsors of the resolution to meet with the Committee to give us further information regarding it. We will ask them to present themselves at a time and place to be announced later.

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 10]

BROTHER BADGLEY: The Committee is of the opinion that a similar resolution has been handed to the Constitution Committee regarding this fund, and the two resolutions might conflict in some way. We think the other resolution will adequately take care of the situation. The Committee therefore nonconcurs in this resolution, and I move that the convention concur in the Committee's action.

BROTHER BEAUDIOIN: I support the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 11]

BROTHER BADGLEY: We discussed this resolution at some length, and the Committee feels that the added cost of hiring a public accountant at the present time is not necessary because we do get a very nice financial audit with the present system. We think the books have been audited fairly and that we get all the information the membership needs. In fact, we get all the information regarding our finances. The Committee therefore nonconcurs in this

resolution, and I move that the recommendation of the Committee be concurred in.

**BROTHER BEAUDOIN:** I support the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 12]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** We had quite a discussion on this resolution. The Committee as a whole realizes that we need an educational program, especially since we are hearing so much about the Taft-Hartley law, but we do not feel it is proper to put the burden upon the International officers to make up such an educational program.

The Committee feels it is the duty of every local union and every delegate to work out their own educational program, and not put this additional work upon the International officers.

Therefore, the Committee votes nonconcurrence in this resolution, and I move that the Committee's report be concurred in.

**BROTHER BEAUDOIN:** I support the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 26]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** We had more discussion on this resolution than any other that came before the Committee. The Northern District handed this resolution to us, and it seems they have not had the proper information when they were negotiating some of their agreements. The rest of us found it very difficult to understand the reason why they didn't have this data, because it is very easily secured.

At the same time the Committee felt that the idea is sound, and we are willing to concur in the resolution. I move that the convention concur in the Committee's recommendation.

**BROTHER BEAUDOIN:** I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 28]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** The Committee feels we are a democratic organization, and we would like to keep it that way. If we prolong the convention for too long, the rank and file of the membership won't have a chance to get together and discuss things and make new laws, rules and regulations.

Therefore the Committee nonconcurs in this resolution, and I move that the convention concur in the Committee's recommendation.

**BROTHER BEAUDOIN:** I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 37]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** The rent on your International office is going to be raised considerably, and over a period of a few years that rent could pay for a building which could be sold at any time thereafter; even if for only half the amount we would still have the money we put into it. There are several other good reasons for the Committee being in favor of this resolution; therefore, the Committee has voted to concur in this resolution, and I move that the convention concur in the Committee's recommendation.

**BROTHER BEAUDOIN:** I support the motion.

**BROTHER GALARDA:** It doesn't state here what city the building would be in, and makes no recommendation about what the Executive Board should do. It seems to me the resolution is a little vague.

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** The Committee naturally took it to mean that the building would be purchased in St. Louis, and if at any time in the future we wish to move our headquarters, we could sell the building. We have the right to change our headquarters city at any time.

**BROTHER HAROLD HAMILTON (Local 91):** The proper place for the headquarters office is in the American Federation of Labor building in Washington, D. C. We are affiliated with the A. F. of L., and I think we should wait a few years and get our headquarters where they belong, in the A. F. of L. building in Washington. I would like to see this resolution defeated.

**BROTHER EDWIN KABUBECK (Local 60):** I am not in favor of defeating this motion. We have had meetings in rented halls at great cost to the Union. If the International has a home we could meet there and save a lot of money. St. Louis is in about the center of the United States and is easily accessible to all parts of the country. Perhaps locals nearby could pay rent for a small meeting room. The building then would pay for itself and it would save our International a lot of money.

**BROTHER RAYMOND O'BRIEN (Local 16):** You practically took the words out of my mouth. St. Louis is centrally located and is the proper place for the headquarters office. If we have a building of our own it will be the beginning of a foundation we haven't had before. If we can purchase a building within our means we will have a foundation for the organization which we need. I am heartily in favor of the resolution to purchase a building for the International Union. (Applause)

**BROTHER PORTER:** Mr. President, may we have a ballot vote on this question? I would like to ask for one.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The delegate asks for a roll call ballot on this resolution. Will the Secretary prepare the ballots.

**BROTHER GALARDA:** I didn't bring up the point that this resolution is vague. We should have a home, and there is nothing finer than a place to call our own. I merely mentioned the fact that nothing is stated in the resolution.

I would like to move to refer this back to the Committee, to present a proper site for consideration.

**BROTHER RALPH GEESEN (Local 79):** I second the motion.

**BROTHER BOOKER:** The wisdom of buying a building and going into the real estate business is always questionable. However, I don't think it was made clear as to the amount the rent is going to be increased. I believe as of September 1st it will be \$50 a month, in the present location, which is inadequate. It has always been inadequate.

I feel that the purchase of a building, if nothing more than a remodeled residence, in which committees could meet and not have to go to hotels and pay high rents for a two- or three-day meeting, would mean a saving to everyone. If you wish to refer this back to the Committee, I am not against that. I think we are wasting time doing that. I can't conceive of anyone on the Executive Board being foolish enough to purchase a building in any other than our designated headquarters city of St. Louis.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** I believe the sponsor of the last motion simply means he wishes to have it referred back to the Committee for a clarification of the matter, and I think that request is in order.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried unanimously]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** We have Resolution 45 before us. It has the same

sponsors as Resolution 9, and we would like to consult with the sponsors of Resolution 45 before the Committee takes any action. We will announce the time and place for the meeting.

This concludes my partial report for the morning.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Badgley.

Is the Constitution Committee ready to make a partial report?

BROTHER BAKER: We have quite a number of duplications in resolutions, and are trying to group them together as much as possible in order to get the best of the lot.

[Brother Baker read Resolution 2]

BROTHER BAKER: This is concurred in by the Committee, and its adoption is recommended. I move you the recommendation be adopted.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I support the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 3]

BROTHER BAKER: The Committee had some discussion on this, both as to the amount of the initiation fee and also as to whether the organization fund was the proper place for distribution of it. We believe the initiation fee matter will be incorporated in other resolution, and we recommend that this be not approved.

I move you that the Committee's recommendation be accepted.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I second the motion for nonconcurrence.

BROTHER FRED KELLER (Local 4): I heartily recommend that this body nonconcur in the recommendation, and that this resolution be adopted. I feel that the older members of this organization have borne the burden for a long time. When a new member comes into this organization he receives the same benefits as the old member, and we believe it is only fair that he share the burden financially. I recommend that the Committee's recommendation be not concurred in.

BROTHER HARRY ROSE (Local 61): In turning this resolution down we have Resolution 31 which will be concurred in, and that will bring the fee up higher. Three or four resolutions are the same thing, and some are a little clearer than others. We picked the one that is clearest, and it will carry a recommendation for a higher revenue, as far as the charter fees, and so on, are concerned. The money paid into the International will be higher. Resolution 31 will explain the matter satisfactorily, I am sure.

[Brother Baker re-read Resolution 3]

BROTHER BAKER: The motion is that the convention nonconcur in this resolution. May I talk on this? We have taken into consideration the need for more revenue. That is pretty thoroughly agreed upon. We have also taken into consideration the practice which is pretty general, namely, some locals not living up to the Constitution and charging a \$25 initiation fee. We know that is the case.

We also took into consideration the law which we have heard so much discussion of and know nothing about, in regard to absorbing initiation fees. We want to accomplish what needs to be done as far as our revenue is concerned, but we want to do it in such a manner that it will be for the best interest of the rank and file membership as well as the International organization.

I don't think I can say any more on this. We have the unanimous approval of the Committee that this be not concurred in.

BROTHER ARTHUR MANK (Local 4): I don't see why we have to keep on arguing about this. Let's wait until we come to the resolution concerning initiation fees which the Committee will concur in.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: There are several resolutions on the same subject. The Committee will try to incorporate all of the points in one resolution which they believe are proper, with the consent of the sponsors, and in that way we will avoid arguing about one resolution when there is another that will take care of the matter.

BROTHER JACK BRADSHAW (Local 67): I am one of the Committeemen, and I think we will settle this if we read Resolution 31. That resolution combines several other resolutions.

BROTHER PORTER: The difference in these motions is mainly that Resolution 3 puts the money into the general fund, and Resolution 31 puts it into the strike fund; is that right?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I don't know.

BROTHER ELMER FLECKENSTEIN (Local 68): I ask for a point of order. We are discussing Resolution 3, not 31. If you concur in this motion we will bring Resolution 31 to you and then you can decide what to do with it.

[The motion to nonconcur was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 4]

BROTHER BAKER: The Committee does not concur in this resolution. We recommend that the Executive Board work toward setting up the insurance on an actuarially sound basis, and that the general fund shall be provided for separately from the death benefit fund.

I move that the sense of this resolution be approved, with the recommendation of the Committee incorporated in the resolution.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I second the motion. I think the Committee used very good judgment on this matter. We don't understand the matter of paying out death benefits. The Committee should be commended for using good judgment. What they have recommended to the International is fine.

BROTHER KABURECK: What we have recommended is that the recommendation be accepted. Changing it from \$30,000 to \$60,000 does not solve the problem. We don't know what the figure should be. That is why we suggest that the International have a survey made to find out what the proper figure should be, and set it as such. That figure is just a guess.

BROTHER BOOKER: There is nothing wrong with the Committee's recommendation. We agree to it heartily, providing it is understood that their recommendation does not empower the Executive Board to lower the amount of money now stated in the Constitution. There is no clarification of that. You are giving the Executive Board authority to set any amount they arrive at. I do not believe the \$30,000 figure should be lowered.

BROTHER PETER HEMMER (Local 4): As the sponsor of this resolution, I am perfectly willing to abide by the Committee's recommendation.

BROTHER GALARDA: Is the recommendation of the Committee a substitute for this resolution?

BROTHER BAKER: That is right.

BROTHER GALARDA: May we hear it read again?

**BROTHER BAKER:** It now reads, "Resolved: That Article 14, Section 1 be changed to read, 'In the event the death fund is shown to contain \$60,000, then any amount above shall go into the general fund.'"

The Committee's recommendation is that "the Executive Committee be instructed to work toward setting up the insurance on an actuarially sound basis, and the general fund shall be provided for separately from the death benefit fund."

If I may continue, Brother Booker questioned whether that would cut below the \$30,000 set up by the Constitution now. That we do not know. That is the reason for asking that this be set up on an actuarially sound basis. It may be that we should have \$50,000 established; on the other hand, \$20,000 might be sufficient. If the actuary's survey shows what should be in the fund, it will be maintained on that basis and will fluctuate from time to time. There is no definite amount that can be placed in here. As our membership grows we may have to have more money, and the figure may fluctuate for a period of years.

Some of us have talked about this for a number of years, and we took into consideration the remarks made by Mr. Ornburn yesterday, about how some of the fraternal organizations have fallen by the wayside. We don't want that to happen to us. Some of our members have paid into this insurance fund for a long time, and we want to protect it for them.

**BROTHER GALARDA:** Then the intent of the Committee is to nonconcur in Resolution 4, and substitute this? That is very good, and I agree with it.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Do the delegates understand that the Committee's motion is to nonconcur with the resolution as now written, and to incorporate their recommendation for Resolution 4?

**BROTHER BRADSHAW:** In any event, if this is passed it should be stated that the insurance will not be turned over to the general fund at any time. It will be for insurance purposes only.

**BROTHER BEAUJOIN:** The resolution should be rewritten and resubmitted to the convention.

**BROTHER GENOTTE:** The last sentence of the first part of the resolution states "Any amount above shall go into the general fund." That is not the proper wording.

**BROTHER BAKER:** The recommendation does not take the figure of \$60,000 into consideration at all. We ask that this be set up on the basis of an actuary's survey of our insurance needs. The last clause in the recommendation is to the effect that after that is done, and we have it set up soundly, if it comes out at \$60,000 fine and dandy, and we will build up to that point. Then it provides that the general fund from that point forward shall be provided for separately from the death benefit fund.

In other words, we will have as much money as we need to maintain us at that figure. I believe we will have other resolutions that will provide for the general fund.

[The motion to nonconcur was put to a vote and was carried unanimously]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 5]

**BROTHER BAKER:** The Committee concurs in this resolution, and in conjunction with the concurrence they took cognizance of the fact that we have a variation of procedures in various locals. They do not all have the same procedures in connection with dues assessments.

The Committee recommends that the same procedure be established between locals, and that the assessment be collected from new members for

the calendar year of their membership. As far as new men coming in are concerned, there is some question whether, if they go in in October, they pay or not for that year. We ask that all locals do this uniformly and collect it for the year the man becomes a member.

With that recommendation for better working out of the program, we concur in this, and I move its adoption.

BROTHER FRED FUCHS (Local 96): I second the motion.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I want to be recorded as voting against this motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 6]

BROTHER BAKER: There was quite a bit of discussion on this resolution. Different conditions in different localities were taken into consideration. It was pointed out that according to our present setup in our Constitution, if a working foreman pays active dues he can work eight hours a day. Some unions have interpreted that in their favor, and have denied active union members the right to work.

However, the Committee concurs in this resolution and would like to have approval to insert the words "and that such work be held to a minimum." We want to work toward the elimination of working foremen, even though they are active, dues-paying members. Therefore, we ask that the words "and that such work be held to a minimum" be added.

With that addition I move that this resolution be adopted.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Will the sponsor of the resolution concur in the addition?

BROTHER SEGIDIN: We agree to that.

[The motion was severally seconded]

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: The Resolutions Committee has a resolution on this same thing. In my Local we won't stand for it. Any time we have a man who is going to be a boss and also a member of the Union, he is out. We have a contract signed with our company which says the company at all times has jurisdiction over the foreman. I do not agree with this resolution.

BROTHER SEGIDIN: I am one of the sponsors of the resolution. We don't want our bosses working on a job. We don't want foremen to work even one hour a day. Our Constitution doesn't go far enough so we can really stop them.

BROTHER BAKER: I don't want to take up too much time, gentlemen, but I would like to read section 10 of the Constitution and show you by this wording that the management can insist on working a man eight hours if he pays active dues.

At the Kalamazoo Stove Company we don't have working foremen, either. We have had it interpreted in our favor and we have gotten away with it. These other people have not gotten away with it.

"Any foreman, assistant foreman or inspector shall not be granted an honorary or beneficiary honorary card in event of his being employed more than one hour per day upon work rightfully coming under the jurisdiction of active members of this union, as specified in Article 1, Section 2, such members not to attend meetings."

To elaborate on that trend of thought, it says they shall not be granted an honorary or beneficiary honorary card if they work more than one hour a day. It says nothing about his not being able to work on an active card for one, two or eight hours a day. We have to be broadminded enough to word this as far as possible to take care of all conditions, and not just an individual local's condition.

BROTHER GALARDA: It says foremen for collective bargaining processes cannot join the Union. I don't know just what that means. We don't know, when we pass these resolutions, whether we are within our rights in having those men in our Union at all. Possibly that will void Section 10, and we will not be able to have foremen at all in our organization for collective bargaining purposes. That is the intent of the Taft-Hartley law.

I move we refer this back to the Committee for further study and clarification. Possibly they may get some more information and we can have a better understanding of what it means.

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was lost]

BROTHER BAKER: I call for the adoption of the previous motion.

[The original motion was put to a vote and was carried]

BROTHER BAKER: Resolutions 7, 19, 20, 21 and 33: In order to save time, I would like to give you our recommendation on these. We have grouped these five resolutions, and we ask that the sponsors representing the Northern District collaborate and resubmit a resolution incorporating the best thoughts of these five resolutions.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Do you mean you want them to meet with the Constitution Committee to work out one resolution to cover the five?

That is right. I would like to add the recommendation of the Committee and move that that procedure be followed.

[The motion was severally seconded]

BROTHER COOPER: I think it would make an unwieldy group if you sent this back to all the sponsors. I would suggest you hold it down to five men. I would recommend that the head of each sponsoring group meet with the Constitution Committee.

BROTHER BOOKER: If a man from the group feels his resolution has specific points, the Committee cannot deny him the right of having his resolution presented; is that understood?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Yes.

BROTHER BAKER: Yes. We will welcome any minority report. We will be pleased to take such time as is necessary to meet with them. If we can add anything to this we will be glad to do so. I accept the suggestion that the chairmen of the sponsoring committees presenting these resolutions meet with the Constitution Committee.

BROTHER O'BRIEN: In glancing through these resolutions I find we are talking about active members on the dues-paying increase. I think it would be wise at this time to talk a bit about the out-of-work stamps and the B. H. members. An increase should be made in those brackets. We are talking only about the active members, and we should say something about the out-of-work and B. H. members.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Mr. O'Brien, when the Committee gets together they will take that into consideration. The Committee will discuss not only

active dues but other dues we have, and all of the per capita tax.

BROTHER BRADSHAW: In order to save time the Chairman should set a time for them to get together.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I believe it should be left to the Chairman of the Constitution Committee.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: We are to have a picture taken of the convention, after which we will have a short recess.

[The convention picture was taken, and a short recess followed]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Gentlemen, we did not have the invocation this morning because we did not let the Rabbi know we were to meet at eight o'clock. At this time the invocation will be given by Reverend Mathew Lever-son of the Temple Israel.

REVEREND MATHEW LEVERSON: Our God and God of our fathers, as we gather here to contemplate our problems, we invoke Thy blessing upon our deliberations. Guide us so that we can bring peace of mind, happiness to us and to our brethren and to all Thy children everywhere.

Give us strength, reason and courage to face the ordeals of the day, and grant happiness and peace to all Thy children, now and forevermore. Amen.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: We will resume with the partial report of the Constitution Committee.

[Brother Baker read Resolutions 13, 14 and 15]

BROTHER BAKER: These contain a suggested layout of the proposed new dues book. We submit the resolutions and concur in them, and ask that the Executive Board accomplish the change at the earliest possible convenience.

[The motion was severally seconded]

BROTHER MOSES: We passed Resolution 1 not long ago, "That a committee of the International Executive Board be appointed to draw up a monthly dues stamp." These approve another plan.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Resolution 1 simply concurs in the idea of a monthly dues stamp; these other resolutions give the Executive Board power to work it out properly.

BROTHER COOPER: The first resolution states merely that the Executive Board shall devise some means. Resolutions 13 and 14 say practically the same thing. Resolution 15, if concurred in, will be the pattern to be carried out by the Executive Board.

BROTHER WILLIAM HOWARD (Local 67): Resolution 1 was handled by the Resolutions Committee, not the Constitution Committee.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: That is right.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried unanimously]

[Brother Baker read Resolutions 18 and 25]

BROTHER BAKER: We approve of both resolutions and move their adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded]

BROTHER BOOKER: We have a resolution on this matter not yet pre-

sented to the Committee. I have no right to read it, other than to say that it covers this a little more in detail. I would ask that the resolutions not be voted upon before our resolution is referred to the Committee.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Have you a resolution on this subject?

BROTHER BOOKER: I do have.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I ask the Secretary if they have taken cognizance of the time limit. I think what Brother Booker means is that he has a resolution on this subject which came in within the time limit but did not get into the hands of the Committee. If that is true, he is completely within his rights in asking that the subject be given some consideration along with these two resolutions.

SECRETARY KAISER: Mr. President, all resolutions have not as yet been assigned to committees. They will be assigned as soon as we finish with this partial report of the Constitution Committee.

BROTHER COOPER: Will these two items conflict? If not, what is wrong with concurring in these two and erasing them from the agenda, and not having so much to go back to?

BROTHER BOOKER: I move that Resolution 55 be considered along with these two.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I would suggest that Resolution 55 be read to the delegates, and we might dispose of the three of them at one time, without sending them back to the Committee.

[Secretary Kaiser read Resolution 55]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The Chair does not wish to try to interpret that resolution, but I believe it does conflict somewhat with the other two, and therefore I believe we can dispose of it best by sending them back to the Committee.

BROTHER BADGLEY: I arise to second the motion that Brother Booker made regarding referring Resolution 15 to the Committee together with Resolutions 13 and 14.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The motion before the house is to adopt Resolutions 18 and 25. Brother Booker, you have studied the resolutions more than I have. Could your resolution be either concurred in or nonconcurred in if the other two are concurred in, now?

BROTHER BOOKER: No, sir; my resolution would conflict. There would be two different ideas if you adopted both. I would prefer that my resolution be tossed out and not considered at all, rather than consider these two without it. They are all on the same subject. I am asking only that Resolution 55 be referred.

I have a right to refer a resolution. I am not trying to kill the other motion, and ask only that Resolutions 18 and 25 be referred back to the Committee so that No. 55 may be considered along with them and then presented in a group, as others have been presented.

BROTHER PORTER: The first two are practically identical. Resolution 61 is along the same line and in practically the same wording.

BROTHER BAKER: The Committee is in agreement in grouping these. However, we are getting ahead of ourselves. We haven't been assigned these new resolutions and haven't seen them. It would be my suggestion that we hold these up and group them with the ones we have already mentioned and voted upon.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The other resolutions are in order. There is no

conflict here. The Chair will have to rule that not only Resolution 55 but Resolution 61 should also be referred to Committee, with any other resolutions that belong in that Committee now, whether they pertain to this item or not. The Chair will rule that the delegates who have resolutions in before the deadline have a right to have them presented to the convention.

Brother Kaiser, before we go any further, will you read the numbers of the new resolutions that were printed last night, so we can refer them to the proper committee?

[Resolutions 49, 50, 51, 53, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62 were referred to the Constitution Committee, and Resolutions 48, 52, 56, 57, 63, 64, 65, 66 and 67 were referred to the Resolutions Committee]

BROTHER BAKER: The purpose for not following numerically these resolutions is that we anticipate more resolutions that will be similar to others, pointing toward one specific purpose, and we laid some aside purposely knowing we will have more similar ones to consider at the same time.

[Brother Baker read Resolution 31]

BROTHER BAKER: We approve of this resolution with the following change. We have stricken out the words "and thereafter" and approve the resolution with this change, and move its adoption.

BROTHER ERNEST L. MOUGHTON (Local 91): I second the motion.

BROTHER O'BRIEN: I am against this resolution because we are trying to make union men out of all those we take in. The average fellow who comes out of high school and joins the union thinks the only thing we want to do is take money from him. The lower we make the initiation fee, the better union man we will make out of him. If we need additional revenue to carry on our organization, let's do it by assessment and tax everybody all along the line.

In the past, as financial secretary of Local 16 I have been confronted with assessments and high rates of dues and initiation fees, and so on. Maybe I shouldn't even mention it here, but we have another organization in competition to us that has a lower rate of dues. It so happens that they are in shops where they have a large number of people, and they are in a better position to have lower dues for the same benefits than we have, whereas our organization is smaller and we admit it.

Other organizations are in a position to have lower dues and initiation fees than we have. In order to make a good union man out of a fellow, we have to sort of save him along a little.

My contention is that we should keep the initiation fee and every other fee down to a minimum, and if we have to have additional revenue let the International office order additional revenue through assessments.

BROTHER GALARDA: We heard the previous speaker tell of the poor plight of his membership. That is very regrettable. For years we union people have had to do without a lot of things. We have shouldered all these burdens ourselves, and in order to keep up with the times and have a strong International union we must put ourselves on a good financial basis.

If men have to be union members just because they carry a card, then it's time they shouldered their part of the thing financially, and it's time we let them see what they are paying for. If they can't attend a union meeting and take a part in its affairs, the least they can do is to pay the nominal fee to belong to an organization such as ours. This resolution outlines a very fine program, and I hope the membership votes favorably on it.

BROTHER COOPER: During the war we had the fight you talk about on the \$3 initiation fee basis. Since the war we raised it to \$25. It is true

people don't like to pay \$25. I don't like to pay \$5 for something, but I never saw a time when I didn't pay a little more for something that I didn't watch it just a little more. The \$3 was small; when we raised it to \$25 they yelled the same as everyone else did, but now they are watching things and are interested in them.

We have a lot of young people trying to kick over the traces, too, but they found out that because we didn't put in a group of membership big enough to overthrow our regular members, they are not getting away with it, and they are being educated the hard way. I do think if we don't educate these people when they walk into the shop it will be our fault.

They are going to fight to see that their jobs are protected along with the other fellow's job.

We have a phrase that says, "At the expiration of the sixty days the initiation fee shall be \$25." In Section 4 it says, "All initiation fees other than the charter fee must not be less than the minimum amount of \$5."

I don't quite understand that. In one place it says it shall be \$25, and in another place it says it shall not be less than \$5. May I ask for clarification?

**BROTHER BAKER:** I want to say for Brother Cooper's benefit that this resolution will not take away the local's right to ask that their charter be left open due to a local condition. Probably, in view of the fact that we have a similar condition to yours, that will be our "out." If we reach a point where we feel it is advisable for us to go back, because of slower upgrading, then we will ask the Executive Board to grant us permission to bring these people in at a nominal fee.

As far as Brother Cooper is concerned, it may be possible we have overlooked something there. I would like to have further discussion on that, and maybe we can get our thinking together on it.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Before we go any further with the resolutions, let me see if I can give you a little help.

There is a conflict in that resolution. The conflict has been in our Constitution. I want to say these few words now because we are faced with a new law and we are not familiar with it.

We know that a man going into a shop can protest an initiation fee, and he can force us to go before a committee of the National Labor Relations Board for a hearing. If this resolution should pass as it now reads, more or less as it has been in our Constitution, there is a possibility that if we ever got stuck on a case like that before a committee of the new National Labor Relations Board they may maintain that we are not fair in having two sets of dues when we might charge one man \$5 and another man \$25; and they may whip our ears back.

I would like to talk with the Committee about this. We don't know how it is going to develop, but it can become a pretty detrimental question in our Constitution because of these facts.

**BROTHER BAKER:** Brother Kaiser and I just spoke about this, and he suggested that in order to avoid a conflict between the two groups, as Brother Cooper pointed out, where we say on the one hand that we have an initiation fee of \$25, and down below we say we have a minimum fee of \$5, that this will probably clear it up: "At the expiration of the sixty days the maximum initiation fee shall be \$25." Section 4 will provide that all initiation fees other than the charter fee must not be less than the minimum of \$5. So we have \$3 with an open charter, a minimum of \$5 with a closed charter, and a maximum of \$25 with a closed charter.

I believe I can safely say that the Constitution Committee approves the rewording and recommends its adoption.

**BROTHER BEAUDOIN:** I support the motion.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** You might pass a resolution on this initiation fee matter which may conflict with the law. I am not an attorney, and I am glad of it. However, it appears to me, in the discussion in Washington on the 9th, that the new N. L. R. B. is going to have its hands in what initiation fees shall be, and if a group of people protest the size of the initiation fee—it seems to me that part of our Constitution in which there is a maximum and a minimum initiation fee may be held as discrimination against some men and leniency toward others.

I am not sure of it, but if a resolution like that is passed I believe the convention should realize that if it does conflict with the law, and if we do get into trouble, the Executive Board should have some way of ironing it out. We couldn't take a chance of having a suit on the question by an employee who took it before the Board just to make us follow the Constitution. We must be careful about things like this. I don't know just what to do with our Constitution. I have no suggestion on it at the moment, but I think the Committee should study it a little further. I am a little afraid of it because you are setting new dues, a maximum and a minimum. Therefore, not all the members of the Union will pay the same initiation fee. That is the point that bothers me.

We charge a new member an initiation fee, and after he becomes a journeyman we charge him so much more. Is the amount of dues you are talking about now going to be the complete amount of initiation fees, or is it going to be otherwise after he serves his apprenticeship? In the Constitution we say the man's initiation fee is so much, and after he serves his apprenticeship he pays so much more. Does this resolution take care of that? I would like to bring that to the Committee's attention.

**BROTHER ROSE:** I understand apprenticeship is in dues but not initiation. Initiation is a full amount regardless whether he is a journeyman or an apprentice. You aren't always an apprentice; when you have served your apprenticeship your dues are less than those of a journeyman.

Our idea was to bring this resolution up because of the per capita tax. We didn't want to see all the per capita tax come out of the weekly dues stamp. We thought this would be a good idea to build up the revenue; that is the main reason for the resolution being brought in.

We all know we are going ahead by leaps and bounds, and nobody could say that \$25 is too much initiation fee. In our local we charge everyone \$25 to join.

**BROTHER FOGLESON:** It seems to me that Section 3 is a little stiff. In Local 74 we have had a \$25 initiation fee for the journeymen. We have not charged the men in the lower bracket. We recognize skilled crafts, and we have charged the apprentice boy, when he finishes his apprenticeship, with half for five weeks. At the end of his apprenticeship he pays the other half, or \$12.50 each time, a total of \$25. We did that long before the war.

In the plant I work in we will reach a saturation point, and some of the other shops will also before long. There will be no upgrading in some of those shops. Some fellows will have to stay in the lower brackets for an indefinite period of time.

It has worked fairly well for the \$25 initiation fee because the boys come into the shop and think, "We won't be here very long, and then we will get better jobs." But that doesn't always happen. All shops don't pay the same wages. There are some shops in which a man running a truck in Casting makes as much money as a toolmaker and mounter.

I heard a remark a while ago that the toolmaker was the lowest paid man in the shop. It is generally understood that somebody is going to have to

stay at the bottom, at least in the Kalamazoo Stove Company. Somebody is going to get \$1.75 and \$1.05 an hour, and somebody else is going to get \$1.95 an hour.

I don't see why this can't be, as suggested, a minimum and a maximum; but I don't believe it should be a minimum of \$25. I wouldn't want to have a hard and fast rule saying \$25 is to be the initiation fee for everybody.

**MRS. STANCROFF:** I have a question concerning the locals who have already established an initiation fee, some of \$3 and others \$5. Do I understand the minimum rate would be \$5? How would it affect the locals that have \$5 and \$10 initiation fees? Would we have to raise our fees to \$25 within a limited time?

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** It would not hurt you unless you have a minimum of \$3. It would then have to be raised to \$5, as I understand it.

**BROTHER DAVE SUTTON (Local 67):** I would like to make a motion that we nonconcur in the Committee's recommendation, and refer this back to them for further study.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The motion is out of order because we have one motion on the floor. You can vote it down if you wish to.

**SECRETARY KAISER:** While in Washington last week with our President the question arose as to a man entering the employ of a concern for the first time.

I will assume that I am a new employee entering the concern. It is a union shop. I say to you as a Committee, "I want to join your union. What is your initiation fee, and what is your dues?"

You tell me that you have an initiation fee of \$15 or \$20 or \$25, for instance, and I will reply that I don't feel I should pay that much under this new law that will be in effect on the 22nd of this month. I will appeal to the N. L. R. B. as an individual, and they will take the case to Washington, and they will question our right to have that amount for initiation fees.

That is where you will be hung up, gentlemen, in regard to the resolution before you. We must have something uniform, and if a contention is raised in one local we could step in and say, "This is what we charge." Some day we are going to be called before the Board under this law, unless it gets through the Supreme Court pretty soon and is overruled.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Believe me, under this new law the incoming officers of this International Union are going to be in the "hot seat." I don't want you to feel sorry for anyone on the incoming Executive Board, but I am not trying to kid you. We know more or less what the law means, and we know that a mistake made by us or by you may be the cause of our going to prison. It's not funny, and it's not easy to say it.

I would like to quote to you one part of the Act. We have certain initiation fees we have paid down through the years. I believe we have established a set of initiation fees which, because of the history of our organization, may uphold our Constitution on them. Unless we watch our step in passing this or any other resolution concerning this part of the Constitution, we may change it just enough so that under the law the new N. L. R. B. may say, "If you hadn't changed it we might have recognized the history behind your initiation fee; but now that you have changed it, the historic point is completely out of the picture, and we think you are being unfair."

I want to read you just one part of the Act: "Discriminatory or excessive union fees of the union shop contracts and so on, Section 8(b)5, declares it is an unfair labor practice for a union to exact discriminatory or excessive initiation fees under union shop contracts. What is discriminatory or excessive,

the Section provides, is to be determined by the Board in the light of all relevant circumstances, including the practices and customs of labor organizations in the particular industry, and the wages currently paid to the employees affected."

It is quite plain that they may consider the historic feature of our way of collecting initiation fees. They may take it upon themselves to change it to please themselves, in the event it is changed too drastically.

If they do change it, no matter what we say at this convention, if in one case they change our International initiation fees we of course have to go down the line with it. If I had a little time to study this thing I would like to help the Committee, because I am a little afraid we are getting into something pretty deep.

**BROTHER KELLER:** I would like to suggest that it be referred back to the Committee, and that a Section be added which will give the International officers power to change this in the event it conflicts with the law in any way. In that way I am sure we will protect our unions and officers. That is merely a suggestion.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** I don't think the Stove Mounters International Union should make any statement in our Constitution with reference to the law. As a labor organization we are in earnest disagreement with the Taft-Hartley law, and the only time we have ever touched upon the International fees of a local or the International has been since June 22; up to then there never was any question of it.

I would not want our Constitution to read that we now are going to abide by any law without giving them a darned good fight. Eventually congressional committees may get hold of one of our Constitutions and they may say, "Look! Here is an A. F. of L. union, Mr. Green, that states in one of its laws that under certain conditions they will abide by the law!"

Therefore, they are recognizing that an anti-labor law, good or bad, is recognized by that union. Those are things too deep for us, and they can happen, believe me!

I have no other suggestions to make except that I would like to appear briefly before the Constitution Committee on this subject.

**BROTHER FLECKENSTEIN:** If a motion to refer is in order, I move you that this be referred back to the Constitution Committee.

**BROTHER KELLER:** I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried unanimously]

**BROTHER O'BRIEN:** Might I suggest, in order to get it into the minutes, Mr. President, that you tell the delegates about the veterans who were initiated into the International Union free of charge?

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** That is a good suggestion, Brother O'Brien. It is now in the record. It serves the same purpose as if I had made the announcement.

The Committee on Constitution is finished with this partial report, and while we have some announcements to make, we must give these committees a chance to do some work for this afternoon so that when we reconvene they will be able to make further partial reports.

Are there any committees that have any announcements to make?

[Announcements, after which the meeting recessed at 12:00 noon]

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

July 17, 1947

The meeting reconvened at 2:40 P. M., President Joseph Lewis presiding.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The Convention will please come to order.

We will continue with the partial report of the Constitution Committee.

[Brother Baker read Resolution 17]

**BROTHER BAKER:** The Committee concurs in this resolution and moves its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, put to a vote, and carried unanimously]

[Brother Baker read Resolutions 18, 25, 55 and 61]

**BROTHER BAKER:** We consider Resolutions 18, 25 and 61 are identical resolutions providing for a change to two months from five weeks, in view of our monthly dues stamp, and we move that these three be adopted and that Resolution 55 be rejected. I move that this action be concurred in.

**BROTHER BOOKER:** It is entirely possible that Resolution 55, sponsored by a majority of the California delegation, goes a step further than we should go. However, I have never been able to understand why a man could get back in good grace or good standing who had been, we will assume, in arrears for 364 days by paying the same amount of money and his dues as a man pays who has been suspended for two months.

In all the unions I am acquainted with (and they are not too many) a man in arrears for thirty days has some penalty; if sixty or ninety days in arrears he pays more penalty. If he is in arrears for a whole year he is slapped a little harder.

One man in our Local insists he will pay dues only twice a year because he writes a check each time and it costs 3 cents to mail the check. We are after revenue. It enables a local to discipline its members. Without a fine you cannot very well discipline a man. With the additional revenue it might bring in, and I do not anticipate very much from it, it puts the local officers or the secretary in a position where the member cannot stall him along for 364 days and then pay only \$1. If he goes over the period he thinks about the penalty he will have to pay.

That is all I have to say about Resolution 55. It is a sound, business-like proposition, in my opinion. There are even penalties if you do not pay your gas bill. If you don't pay it after a certain length of time they don't fine you—they come out and turn off your gas.

I would ask reconsideration of Resolution 55 because it covers the ground a little more fully.

**BROTHER J. R. SULLIVAN (Local 75):** What are these fellows in the locals going to do about collecting these fines?

**BROTHER PORTER:** Our By-laws and rules say that if a man is suspended he loses seniority and has to start again at the bottom. We have had no trouble collecting dues.

**BROTHER EUGENE KELLEY (Local 79):** I think the Taft-Hartley bill takes care of that. If a man gets behind in his dues he is suspended or discharged. If he were suspended at \$15 a day it would be quite a blow, too.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Any more discussion?

**BROTHER WAYNE WAGNER** (Local 50): Speaking of the Taft-Hartley law, one reason why we rejected this resolution is that if the man gets two months behind the local should be able to collect it. It is a mighty poor local that can't get back dues from its members. In the Southern Districts they have a state law that takes care of dues, and so on. We are not trying to run our locals out of this in the South, but if we make the laws too tight it will cramp the Southern locals. We had better loosen up on some of these resolutions and not make them too stringent. There are laws in the South that you don't have in any other states in the Union.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The Chair would like to say a few words on this matter, especially in answer to Brother Sullivan of Local 75.

In the State of Tennessee there is an anti-union shop, closed shop and maintenance of membership law. It is a vicious thing, and the funniest part of it is that it supersedes the Taft-Hartley law. In other words, the Taft-Hartley law does not supersede any of the state laws of the thirteen or fourteen states that have such anti-labor laws and have had them in the past year.

No matter what you put in our Constitution to help Brother Sullivan of Local 75 or any other local in the states that have such laws, it won't make a bit of difference, because our Constitution will not and cannot supersede those state laws, any more than it could supersede the Taft-Hartley law.

In other words, the employers in the South who have had maintenance of membership or a union shop or a closed shop, even if they wanted to agree to those union security clauses, could not agree to them. If they were to sign a clause in any one of those agreements for union security of any kind, they would be punishable under the State Act, and they could be imprisoned for it.

So you see what happens to people anywhere in those states that have such laws. They are just out of the union. They leave their union and there is nothing they can do about it—not a thing. There is nothing we can do about it, either. A man can belong or can refuse to belong to a union, as he chooses, under those state laws, and the only exemption to this Taft-Hartley law in that respect is that the Taft-Hartley law allows the maintenance of membership or the union shop; but it does not supersede those state laws.

The only thing I can say to Brother Sullivan is that after August 23rd if 90 per cent of his Local wishes to leave the Stove Mounters Union and wishes to stop paying dues, there is nothing he can do about it.

If the employer will agree, he can get the employer to have a dues checkoff of members who signed individual cards for that purpose, but those same members, two months from now, can ask the employer to stop checking off their dues. There is no definite time limit.

I am now talking about the Tennessee anti-labor law. It is nothing new. No matter what you put into our Constitution, Brother Sullivan, it will not affect your law.

**BROTHER PARKS H. CONLEY** (Local 30): In case the state law were abolished and we came back under this Constitution, would it have an effect upon the state?

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Not necessarily. At that time you could then possibly (if you are strong enough) get back the very things you had before the state law went into effect.

**BROTHER O'BRIEN:** Our speakers have told us that we have a contract that is pretty sound, and not to change it. A little change like this in the Constitution might interfere with our contract. It doesn't mean a lot to anybody. We have functioned under this Constitution for a number of years. Therefore, I would suggest that this isn't too important, and I recommend

we pass over it. [The motion to concur in Resolutions 18, 25 and 61, and to reject Resolution 55, was put to a vote and was carried unanimously]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 22]

**BROTHER BAKER:** The Committee does not concur in this, and moves that the resolution be rejected. (Applause)

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried unanimously]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 24]

**BROTHER BAKER:** The sense of this resolution is that the Journal is not read to a great extent, and it is quite an expensive item. This resolution tends to replace the Journal with a newspaper or other material that might be sent out by the Executive Board in place of the Journal.

We concur in this, and move its adoption.

**BROTHER MOUGHTON:** Second the motion.

**BROTHER GALARDA:** It is true that to some extent the Journal in the past hasn't carried much labor news, but the last issue was really a fine one. We of Locals 79 and 90 made sure that everybody in the locals read it. We went out of our way to have our members read it. It was a very fine publication. As an officer of the Local I was very proud to present that literature to our members.

If we could continue to have a publication of that kind, I certainly would object to discontinuing it. It was really educational.

**BROTHER CLARENCE RUSSELL (Local 90):** The information would be passed on to locals through a paper rather than through a large bulletin. If the paper could be printed regularly, with our news in it, it would be a cheaper way of getting information to our membership than by the Journal method. It would be a big saving to the International.

**BROTHER BOOKER:** I see nothing in this resolution recommending a discontinuance of the Journal. Is the purpose to discontinue the Journal and substitute a paper, or have a paper and Journal both?

**BROTHER BAKER:** I thought I stated that the purpose of this was to replace the Journal as now issued, by a suitable paper.

**BROTHER HAMILTON:** I think this Journal is a wonderful thing and it does a lot of good. We should keep it and reject the Committee's recommendation. The Journal has done a lot of good.

**BROTHER GEORGE REIS (Local 74):** Mr. President, I believe I am practically the oldest member of the organization. As long as I can remember we have had a Journal of some kind. At one time it wasn't more than a couple of pages in length. I enjoyed reading it and I still do, if it is only reading the reports of the officers. Some of the things they send in are constructive. If we discontinue the Journal we will go backward. I have been a member of this organization since 1895, and I have always enjoyed reading the Journal.

**BROTHER FOGLESON:** I see no good reason why we should discontinue the Journal. It might be possible to improve it. It might be we could bring it up-to-date a little more. I would like to know what kind of paper would replace it.

I have read the Journal for 35 years. I am certainly not in favor of discontinuing it unless we replace it with a suitable publication, something we

know will be suitable. We have a bulletin and possibly we could make it a little more modern, but I am not in favor of giving it up unless we will have something suitable to take its place.

**BROTHER MUELLER** (Local 60): That was our idea exactly, to have a paper and publish it at a less cost. The Journal is too expensive for what we get out of it. We could have a regular newspaper, and it would be much cheaper and would save the International some money.

**BROTHER KELLER:** I wanted to say practically the same thing Brother Mueller said. Our International has never had money to function properly. This is another way to leave a little more money in the International treasury, and not have to raise the per capita tax too much.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Delegates, I would like to say something. The delegates at the Quincy convention will remember that there was a resolution presented with the idea in mind that those locals whose editors did not give any material to the Journal for that quarter of the year would not receive Journals for their members for the next quarter.

I know who presented that resolution and I know who wrote it. It was done with the idea of creating interest in our Journal. Soon after I became your International President I asked in a communication to each local—I begged your editors when I attended your meetings—to send in some article on the activity of your locals for the Journal. There is where the weakness of the Journal lies.

A member picks up the Journal; he sees the officers' reports; he goes back a few pages and finds things that we pick out of other labor papers pertaining to various laws, and so on, the number of locals, and so forth, and that is the end of it.

If each local in this room that has elected an editor would have a two-inch column on the activities of those locals, about your bar-be-cues, about the negotiations of your agreements, about some condition you have in the shop that you like or dislike, everybody in the locals would read the Journal, because they want to know those things. They want to know what is going on.

In the last six or seven issues of the Journal, outside of one party from Quincy, Illinois, nothing from any local represented in this hall has been received. The Journal is a tradition of this organization. I have been a member for twenty-one years. We have in our office copies of bound books of our Journals going back fifty years, and it is a pleasure to read those old Journals, because there was activity in those days. Every local in the International Union had a quarter page about some activity.

The editors of the locals are elected for that purpose, and not one of them takes time to send in any news of their local's activities!

You say, "Get rid of the Journal." That is your business. The Journal is very costly. The only reason why you are trying to get rid of it is that it costs money, and it is costly, and because it is dry, to be frank with you. It is absolutely dry.

Let's be fair with ourselves. I don't know what sort of paper the International Union could print that would be of interest to you. You get many bulletins and you hear the same news on the radio that we print. What more of interest could you get than written articles from your own locals?

That is all I want to say, gentlemen. You could put out any sort of paper you wanted. You could put out gold leaves and nobody would read it because it's dry.

**BROTHER SMITH:** In regard to this matter, instead of going into an elaborate book, let's have a simpler form and publish the Taft-Hartley law completely so we can all read it. With our setup information comes from Washington and from William Green telling us about these laws. That's

the kind of program we want for every local. I am in accord with this other gentleman when he suggested that.

BROTHER REIS: There is another old member of the organization in the hall, Art Moran from St. Louis. I know he contributed a good many articles to the Journal. When we become older we figure younger men will step in and take our place.

BROTHER O. J. ERVIN (Local 17): I am a guest, not a member. I appreciate being here. The Journal prompted me to become a member of the Stove Mounters Union. In 1926 we were locked out. We met in the back yard of the cemetery in Alabama. It was against the law to carry a card. We all read the Journal. The Journal said we had rights, and it told us what each and every local in the United States was doing.

I think the Journal is one of the best things ever sent out by the Union. The delegates should keep it because we don't know what the other folks are doing if we don't read about them. We can make union men by raising them. A union man doesn't have to be made to carry a card. He pays his initiation fee. The Journal gives us information we should have. If we put nothing into it we will get nothing out of it.

Let's send in articles to the Journal from now on. Let's send in not a penny, but a dollar, so it will be able to function and give us information we otherwise might not have.

BROTHER HOWARD: Before this is put to a vote I would like the Chair to repeat the recommendation made.

[Brother Baker re-read the resolution]

BROTHER BAKER: The Committee's recommendation is that the Journal be discontinued and replaced by a paper of suitable structure to meet our needs.

BROTHER KABURECK: I am one of the group that drew up this resolution. You know that when the members leave the meeting hall 99 out of every 100 Journals are thrown on the floor. One of the members of the Constitution Committee told us that his boss made the members of his local carry them out of the room because otherwise they would be found all over the place.

If we are spending \$1,000 for Journals and then have to have the boss tell us to carry them out of the shop, we should have something to take its place that won't be so expensive and that we can throw away.

I saw a two-page paper at Indiana at a conference meeting last year. There was more in those two pages than there is in our Journal. The older men will read it, but nine out of ten of the younger men don't read it. All I read are the officers' reports; otherwise there isn't anything of interest in it for me.

I am wholeheartedly in favor of this Resolution, and the Committee also seemed to be unanimously in favor of it, because we could save several thousand dollars and could use that money to a better purpose. A news paper will give us the same thing a lot more cheaply.

BROTHER O'BRIEN: What this gentleman has just said might be true, but are we at a place where we want to save money? Who wants to get a piece of paper? We could throw it in the waste basket any time. If we got a journal in book form, something we could look at and respect, that is what we want. We don't want a piece of paper we can toss away or forget about. We want the Journal in book form so we can look at it and appreciate it.

If you are going to put out a paper, put it out right. Don't put out a couple sheets of paper. We are talking about saving money. We had better pick a different time than now to save money. The Journal is an institution of our organization; we'd better keep it. It is something to look forward to.

We are not an outfit that operates on the street. We are a big organization. What if it does cost us a little money? Let's find some other way to save money, if that's the idea. A Journal will be read. If we hand the members a newspaper they won't even read it.

**BROTHER ARTHUR MORAN** (Local 86): I am not in favor of discontinuing the Journal. It has always been good enough for the Stove Mounters since I have been a member, and that is fifty years. It is the leader of the Stove Mounters. I would like to have the Journal continued the way it has been. Also, I would like to go back to the monthly edition instead of the quarterly edition. I hope you won't take the Journal away from us. We fought for it and paid for it. I have paid to that publication for fifty years. I think I am entitled to the Journal. I stand by the Journal, and I don't care who is against me. (Applause)

**BROTHER GENOTTE**: Why don't we follow the resolution presented at the 1938 convention? When the locals do not send in articles for the Journal, they shouldn't get it. Why not do that again?

**PRESIDENT LEWIS**: You are out of order, Brother. I don't believe it would do any good now, unless you refer this resolution back to the Committee with the resolution that that be done.

[The motion was put to a vote]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS**: The Chair is unable to decide. We will have a roll call vote.

**BROTHER O'BRIEN**: Will you read the resolution again?

[Brother Baker re-read the resolution]

[A roll call vote was taken]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS**: While we are waiting for the tally, is the Chairman of the Jurisdiction Committee ready to report?

**BROTHER RECKEWAY**: Here is a letter to Brother Joseph Lewis from the President of the American Federation of Labor:

[A letter from President William Green, dated June 10, 1947, to Brother Joseph Lewis, was read]

**BROTHER RECKEWAY**: This is Brother Lewis' reply.

[A letter to Mr. Green from President Lewis, dated June 12, 1947, was read]

**BROTHER RECKEWAY**: This is the report of the Committee:

The Committee on Jurisdiction, after hearing the report of the so-called jurisdictional dispute which was brought to the floor of the convention of the American Federation of Labor under Resolution 167, after study recommends the following:

That the entire incoming Executive Board of the Stove Mounters International Union of North America shall act on said so-called jurisdictional dispute, in an effort to effect a settlement in accordance with the recommendation of Vice-President Knight to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

We further wish to impress upon the International Executive Board, which will act as the committee in any future conference called by the President of the American Federation of Labor, that a protest be made at this next conference on the raiding tactics still going on by the unions that are responsible for Resolution 167.

I move that we accept the recommendation and report of the Committee.

[The motion was severally seconded, put to a vote and carried unanimously]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Is the Secretary ready to report on the roll call vote?

SECRETARY KAISER: Yes, sir. One local did not vote, and they had two votes that could have been cast. There were 263 votes that could have been cast.

133½ votes were "Aye". 127½ votes were "Nay".

PRESIDENT LEWIS: By the roll call vote the delegates to this convention have concurred in the recommendation of the Constitution Committee on Resolution 24.

BROTHER BADGLEY: Regardless of what the janitor of this building said about our leaving early, we should have more time. If we could adjourn now it would give us time to get practically all of our resolutions out of the way tonight so we could present them tomorrow.

Therefore, I make a motion to dispense with the rules and adjourn.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried unanimously]

[The meeting adjourned at 4 P.M.]

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## FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

July 18, 1947

The meeting reconvened at 8:20 A.M., President Joseph Lewis presiding.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The convention will come to order.

The Secretary will take the roll of delegates.

[The roll call was recorded]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Is there any delegate here who was not here when his name was called?

The Constitution Committee is ready to make a further report.

[Brother Baker read Resolution 34]

BROTHER BAKER: The change is in the wording. We concur in the change of the word "that" to "as" and move its adoption.

BROTHER GALARDA: I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 35]

BROTHER BAKER: The word "local" has been added. We recommend its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 36]

BROTHER BAKER: We concur in this and move its adoption.

BROTHER RUSSELL: I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 38]

BROTHER BAKER: We concur in this and move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 39]

BROTHER BAKER: We concur in this and move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 40]

BROTHER BAKER: This is a repetition of the present Constitution, and we therefore do not concur in this, and move that it be rejected.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 41]

BROTHER BAKER: Resolution 39 reads, "that for the duration of the war and for a period of one year thereafter, honorably discharged veterans be admitted to membership free of all initiation fees, if otherwise qualified." I mean this is Rule 39, not Resolution 39.

We concur in this and move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 43]

BROTHER BAKER: We concur in this and move its adoption.

BROTHER GALARDA: Second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 44]

BROTHER BAKER: We do not concur in this, and we move its rejection.

BROTHER MOUGHTON: I second the motion.

BROTHER SEGIDIN: May we hear the Committee's thinking and why they rejected it?

BROTHER BAKER: It was the general opinion that this should be part of the rank and file duties to check these salaries, in view of the fact that we have to provide the means for the salaries, and this should be something left with the rank and file membership.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 46]

BROTHER BAKER: We do not concur in this, and move its rejection.

[The motion was severally seconded, put to a vote and carried unanimously]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 30]

BROTHER BAKER: It is recommended that all locals should be visited by an International officer at least twice each year. I am not sure but that we have acted on this before, although I have no note on it.

The change in the original resolution is, "All subordinate locals shall be visited by an International officer at least twice during each year," and in Committee, with the approval of the introducer of this resolution, we changed the wording and inserted, "It is recommended that all subordinate locals should be visited by an International officer at least once during each year."

We concur in this and move its adoption as reworded.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

**BROTHER BAKER:** Resolution 31 was referred back to the Committee for conference with our International President.

"We believe that the jurisdiction, as stated in our Constitution, Article XV, Sections 2, 3 and 4, should be modified. Be it

**"RESOLVED:** That Section 2, Article XV, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 2: The charter fee shall be a minimum of \$3, and the charter must remain open sixty days. For each candidate initiated during the sixty days and thereafter, \$3 must be paid to the International. Charter outfit shall be furnished free.

"Section 3: At the expiration of the sixty days the initiation fee shall be \$25. No charter can be opened without the consent of the Executive Board. \$5 must be paid to the International on each candidate initiated, but all moneys paid to the International for initiation fees other than the charter fees must be used to create a strike fund and can be used for no other purpose.

"Section 4 All other initiation fees other than the charter fee must be not less than the minimum amount of \$5."

After consultation with Brother Lewis, and with the approval of the brother who introduced the resolution, we have made these changes: We have stricken out the word "sixty" and inserted the figure "90", going back to our original wording in the Constitution. We have also inserted in Section 3, "At the expiration of the ninety days the maximum initiation fee shall be \$25."

We concur in this as amended, and move its adoption.

We have also stricken out the word in Section 2, after "sixty days", which now becomes ninety days, the words "and thereafter". Those two words are stricken out.

**BROTHER MOUGHTON:** I second the motion.

**BROTHER SEGIDIN:** There is only one reason why Local 96 came to this convention—to help organize various stove companies. We are interested only in organizing the stove companies, especially down South.

I am in favor of eliminating anything pertaining to a time limit, because I know it is violated. That Section has been violated so many times it is pathetic.

We don't want to stand in the way of our organizers organizing the shops. Is it more important to get revenue from initiation fees, or revenue from dues?

Let me tell you what confronts us today: The boys in the South are up against it. We don't want to do anything to hinder them, because it is hard for them to organize. We have competition there; the C. I. O. has come to the South and so has the A. F. of L. The Michigan District knows that the C. I. O. charges no initiation fee.

I feel if the time limit in the first section could be eliminated we would be better off.

Effingham, Illinois, has a local with 700-odd members and 800 employees.

I was invited by the International President and our District Chairman, Gene Hagan, to go to Effingham for a mass meeting. We contacted the people. Do you know what their top rate is?—75 cents an hour and 55 cents an hour for common laborers. That is only 100 miles from St. Louis.

We have a good local there, and we are going to work to get in all those 800 members. Let's not do anything that will hinder our organizing these shops. Right now we have no competition, and stoves are being sold, and all factories are running at full speed, but before long we will be in competition with one another again.

Let's eliminate the ninety days. I know that is being violated today. We submitted only three resolutions to this convention. If we don't consider three important things—organization, increasing revenue for the organization, and increasing our officers—we will be sorry. I have talked to the boys in the South, and I have had a hard time getting them to agree to pay for a \$1.50 monthly dues stamp. We don't want to lose those men. I have been told we might as well fold up. That is a serious thing to hear from the men in the South. We don't want to lose members—we want to gain them. The boys in the South say they are afraid they are going to fold up.

Which brings the greater revenue—initiation or dues? I ask that the ninety days be stricken out because that clause is violated. Our International officers know it, and our representatives know it, so why have it in there?

**BROTHER KELLER:** I also had the opportunity to go to Effingham on the Sunday Brother Segidin spoke of, and I know that the Executive office has waived the rights of initiation fee in order to gain a local. I say they would be very foolish if they didn't do so, and I hope they do it again in order to get new memberships.

In well organized places, when new members come into the organization, and wages are higher and the benefits are more, they receive the same amount of benefits on their first day as the older members receive. Let them pay something for those benefits, and put some revenue into the International to help the others along.

**BROTHER SULLIVAN:** I am here representing Tennessee. We appreciate what the Union has done for us. We do know what we can get there. We have people there who don't make that much in salaries. You speak of paying these things. We can't collect the money. We do the best we can, but it's hard to do.

I feel if you raise our minimum initiation fee, if you raise the dues, we will have to fold up. If those in other sections of the country can live with those charges let them do it. If you want us with you we will have to maintain a fee the people in the South can pay. The folks down there aren't too sold on unions. They have worked under legislation. Not many years ago we in the South could not go to a union meeting without taking the chance of losing our jobs the next day.

After we got legislation so we could do those things, organized labor began to pick up. Still the folks in the South are not educated to this. The officers of the International have been down there and they know what confronts us.

**BROTHER HAMILTON:** Wouldn't it be a good idea to send this back to the Committee and have them add a fifth Section to the effect that the initiation fee may be waived at the discretion of the Executive Board? I think that would take care of the situation.

I would like to move that this be referred back to the Committee.

[The motion was severally seconded]

**BROTHER ROSE:** I would like to say something about that before we vote. I am from the Northern District, and I don't quite understand the con-

ditions in the South, but it seems that some of the speakers here are going to have to pay people to join their union. Those people are a detriment to you and to us. If you do organize them under such conditions, what sort of agreement will you have with them? You will have an agreement that the M. P. and D. A. will throw the agreements in your face. They will say, "Those people live there; they eat and they go about their own business, so why can't you?"

Their living conditions are a little lower, but that isn't everything. If you start paying people to join your organization, I would say we don't want them.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The reason why I gave Brother Rose the floor is because he is the sponsor of the resolution. It is all right to have discussion on referring it back to the Committee, but we should have to vote to refer it back in order to cure the part of it that Brother Hamilton suggested.

[The motion was put to a vote]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The Chair will have to ask for a roll call vote. I don't see how I can give an honest opinion of your vote. I can't get the "ayes" and "nays" from here. They sound about the same. I am going to be fair, and say I will not act on it unless I am positively sure I am right.

[The motion was again put to a vote]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The "ayes" have it, as far as I can tell. (Applause)

[Brother Baker read Resolution 33]

**BROTHER BAKER:** We do not concur in this. The reason for nonconcurrency is that we have approved the monthly dues stamp. This is still based on the weekly dues stamp, and therefore we nonconcur in this and move that it be rejected.

**BROTHER MOUGHTON:** I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 53]

**BROTHER BAKER:** This is a duplication of charter fees, and so on, and we do not concur in this and move its rejection.

**BROTHER MOUGHTON:** Second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 54]

**BROTHER BAKER:** We approve of this and move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 58]

**BROTHER BAKER:** We have rejected this in favor of other resolutions from which we hope to get a complete resolution. We do not concur in this and move that it be rejected.

**BROTHER MOUGHTON:** Second the motion.

**BROTHER BOOKER:** I cannot say I am disappointed, because I anticipated nonconcurrence. I am going to take only one minute on this; after I am through I will be perfectly willing to withdraw the resolution if you wish.

We talk about survival! If every man in the Union must be treated alike, you will never do it until every man in the Union pays the same amount of dues, has the same amount of insurance, has the same amount of representa-

tion. You don't have it yet, and the time is not far distant when you will have to do it, whether you live above or below the so-called Mason-Dixon line.

We grant a lot of concessions to help people, but we expect people to go along and help themselves a little more than they have done. This resolution is a little stiff, and I agree that we cannot accomplish too much in one stride. After a man reaches the age of forty, which isn't old, he begins to slow down and he knows it is silly to run as fast as he did at age twenty. Maybe I will be back two years from now; who knows?

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 59]

BROTHER BAKER: We class this resolution with the other one, and we think we have covered it. We do not concur in this, and move its rejection.

BROTHER MOUGHTON: Second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 62]

BROTHER BAKER: This is a duplication which we think will be covered in our dues program. We do not concur in this, and move its rejection.

BROTHER MOUGHTON: Second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 60]

BROTHER BAKER: We have placed this along with the others. We do not concur, and move its rejection.

BROTHER MOUGHTON: Second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolution 32]

BROTHER BAKER: We do not concur in this, and move its rejection.

BROTHER MOUGHTON: Second.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

BROTHER BAKER: I want to plead Guilty to an error that we in the Committee hope is not too serious. In the grouping of Resolutions 7, 19, 20 and 21 the instructions were to refer this back to the authors of these four resolutions, for collaboration on one resolution to take care of our dues proposition. That was not done. The Constitution Committee, however, did go over this pretty thoroughly. We have arrived at a resolution which in their opinion fills the bill.

We have arrived at the conclusion that Resolution 21 is the best.

[Brother Baker read Resolution 21]

BROTHER BAKER: The Committee approves this resolution and moves its adoption.

BROTHER MOUGHTON: Second the motion.

BROTHER HEMMER: Does that include members who already have benefit cards? They are paying 80 cents. I am afraid they are going to violate the contract. Local 4 has 62 benefit honorary paying members, and they are all paying 80 cents and have been paying it for years. Can they change that

without violating the contract?

**BROTHER BAKER:** We have discussed that; whether any change in this will have to be made will come from the floor. The Committee went over all these bills and did quite a job. We compromised on this resolution, and any changes should be made from the floor.

**BROTHER KABURECK:** When we discussed this resolution the active dues-paying member increased the same percentage as anybody else. It would not be fair for the men working to help pay the death benefit of the man with a B. H. card. That is my opinion; that is the way the resolution is drawn up. The B. H. card is increased exactly the same percentage as an active dues-paying member, which I think is proper, because none of you feel like paying another man's death benefit insurance.

**BROTHER FOGLESON:** It seems to me that we had a resolution passed yesterday saying we would look into the insurance proposition and put it on a sound basis. The brother referred to paying these beneficiary honorary members' insurance.

I would like to remind you that I have been paying a fellow's insurance for a long time. If insurance statistics prove it is necessary to raise the beneficiary honorary dues, we fellows who have paid this for years will be perfectly willing to have it raised. But it hasn't been proved. If any of you men who are 40 years old go out and try to get a job, you will see that the manufacturers are not hiring people except boys of 18 and 20. If you have a gray hair in your head you can't get a job. So the insurance rate is naturally going to be reduced.

Any of you who think you are going to stay very long in the industry had better stay where you are. New men are coming into all of these plants. The plants won't hire men over 40. Figure out the insurance statistics and you will find that this increased rate is going to be reduced in the next ten years due to the fact that they are hiring school boys.

I don't see the \$1 increase, and I don't think it is necessary for the beneficiary honorary membership, anyhow.

**BROTHER MANK:** I am only 38; I have been paying into this for 20 years. Nobody has helped pay my beneficiary honorary. I pay 60 cents dues. The man paying 25 cents a week makes as much money as I make. I am paying 15 cents more dues now than the quarter man, so figure it out.

**BROTHER REIS:** I have been paying 60 cent dues ever since it has been in existence. I can't see the necessity of raising that assessment. The men are paying enough if they are paying 80 cents. A brother made the remark about not wanting to pay someone else's death benefits. That is what we are all doing. We have been paying other fellows' death benefits for years, and before the Stove Mounters had a death benefit we in Local 1 had \$100 in the death benefit in the Local. That saved a lot of fellows nights on the road, as we called it at that time.

**BROTHER EHRHARD:** I believe I represent an organization that has been in existence for 45 or 50 years. I am the junior by far of the 60 cent paying members. I ask you to consider this one thing: Our men have been paying into this organization for years and years. I have men working with me who have been in this organization for forty years. I am 49 years old and have been in it for 30 years. Is it fair to put this upon those members who have been paying in all this time? We have a chance to get revenue from other sources that will help us more than these old men I know who can't pay any more. I ask you to reconsider this before you vote on it.

**BROTHER DWIGHT JOHNSON (Local 16):** I am Treasurer of Local 16. We have several members who have honorary beneficiary cards. Several of them are unable to work any more, and they get old age pensions. In Ohio the pension is very small.

I think it would be decidedly unfair to put any additional burden on the older men who created this Union in the first place and built it up to what it is now. I prefer paying their death benefits. We would be paying something that we owe them, and not giving them a thing. It is a debt we owe to them! (Applause)

BROTHER GRIMSHAW: At the present time the beneficiary honorary dues is 80 cents a month; that is \$9.60 per year for \$500 worth of insurance, or \$19.20 per \$1,000 for a year. When these rates were set they were figured on an actuary basis. The out-of-work stamp, the B. H. stamp, and the dues stamp were all figured out and worked out just about the same. We pay 20 cents per week if you are a 60 cent dues-paying member. In a month that is 80 cents.

There is a certain percentage of these active dues that were worked out to go into the death benefit fund. It all figured the same. The rate for the 60 cent member is plenty high enough and will take care of all of it, but it is these members in the lower bracket. Did you ever figure out how much the 25 cents per week member is paying toward the death benefit for \$100 of insurance? He pays just about one-half or three-quarters of what the 60 cent dues paying member pays.

This whole thing is tied up under the present system, it is all hooked up together, and it is going to take quite a while to work it out.

BROTHER HAMILTON: I would like to make a motion that we refer this back to the Committee for further study.

[The motion was severally seconded]

BROTHER SCHMIDT: I am the sponsor of the resolution. After talking it over with others, we are willing to withdraw the beneficiary part of the resolution. We think we would be willing to withdraw that portion of it.

BROTHER MANK: I still don't think the 60 cent dues should be raised.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Brother Mank, we could discuss the matter for a long time. The sponsor of the resolution has agreed to withdraw that part of the resolution. It has no bearing on the resolution. I will put the vote to refer it to the Committee to make the change.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

BROTHER BAKER: We still have to dispose of Resolutions 19, 20 and 21, which were incorporated in Resolution 7. Resolution 7 has been referred back to the Committee for further consideration. Shall we withdraw 19, 20 and 21 and work on No. 7 alone?

BROTHER GRIMSHAW: I would like to move to refer all of these back to the Committee, with instructions to bring in a substitute for the whole.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

BROTHER BAKER: May I make a suggestion we made yesterday. I will take the responsibility for it. I didn't take it upon myself to call the Committee together, and they did not meet with the Constitution Committee. There was some confusion.

I would like to have the sponsors of these resolutions, one from each group, meet with the Committee so we can draw one resolution.

BROTHER GENOTTE: Would I be out of order if I asked permission to make a few remarks at this time regarding what we were talking about?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I don't think so, because all these resolutions are going back to the Committee.

BROTHER GENOTTE: It seems to me we are not going to get very

far with the most important thing before us today. The older men are objecting to a few cents a month raise. The younger men, the ones paying 25 cent dues, are going to object to an increase in dues.

As it stands right now, the International is operating at a loss. Brothers, if we don't get our heads together today and come out with something good, something good for every one of us, when these old-timers begin to leave us we are not going to have the money to pay off. Each and every one of us is going to have to pay the bill. If we don't pay it now we will have to pay it later. We are operating at a loss.

I believe most of you know that a \$500 insurance policy in any insurance company costs at least \$1.75 a month. We are maintaining a \$500 death benefit for 80 cents a month. When the time comes we will not have the money to pay the beneficiaries of these men. We had better get down to brass tacks and come back with something that is going to suit all of us. The older man with the \$500 beneficiary doesn't want an increase; nobody wants an increase. We have all had increases over the past five years, every one of us. If we haven't it has been our own fault.

The International officers have not received any increase, and it is time we did something about it. We don't have the money to do it now. If we don't vote something through today and now, possibly three years from now we won't even be in the position we are in today and can't hold a convention.

**BROTHER FOGLESON:** I would like to clear up a misunderstanding. For the old-timers I want to say that we do not object to an increase in dues. We believe it is necessary, but I don't think scientific investigation of insurance facts will show that under our setup it is necessary for this \$1.00 benefit honorary.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Are there any further committees to report at this time? The Committee on Resolutions will continue. Brother Badgley.

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** Resolution 37 was referred back to the Committee because it did not specify the city in which the new building should be purchased.

We have rewritten the resolution as follows: "RESOLVED: That the incoming Executive Board be empowered to purchase a building in St. Louis, Missouri, at its discretion, at a cost not to exceed \$17,500."

The Committee concurs in this, and I move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 9]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** The Committee called in the sponsors of this resolution and had a full and complete explanation of what they had in mind, and the Committee as a whole is in agreement that the idea is splendid; but taking into consideration the financial standing of the International Union, we figured that at this time, while it is good, it should be put before the next convention to be worked out, and that at the present time finances would not permit such a program.

Therefore, the Committee nonconcurs in the resolution. Brothers Beaudoin and Cooper voted against the motion to nonconcur. The rest of the Committee nonconcurred in this, and I move the report of the Committee be adopted.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 45]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** Our Committee had more discussion on this than on any other resolution. We called in the sponsors and discussed it with them at some length. While I am not going to discuss the pros and cons, I will

give the result of the vote on this resolution. The resolution was nonconcurred in, the vote being 7 to 8. In other words, 8 voted nonconcurrence and 7 voted concurrence.

I move the adoption of the Committee's recommendation to nonconcur.

**BROTHER HAMILTON:** I think if a local feels it wants to be put in the Northern District they have a democratic right to demand to be put in there, and we should reject the Committee's report.

**BROTHER JOHN PIERCE (Local 57):** We tried to point that out, that we have good reasons for changing to the Northern District. To begin with, we are a day rate shop, and by the very nature of the setup in the manufacture of our stoves we will always be a day rate shop.

Nevertheless, being associated with the Southwestern District we are, on a day rate basis, one of the highest paid shops. As a matter of fact, when we tried to bargain and bring up any more of our wages, we had no guarantee. They said, "If you can show a higher rate in your District, we will go along with you." And we can't show it.

In that same District there are people with at least 25 to 30 per cent more take-home pay because of the incentive plan, the piece work rates. Actually, although we are nominally making more money now on paper, we are actually falling at least 25 per cent behind in some instances.

We are in a town where we are competing with other highly skilled labor that is highly organized in the C. I. O. We have to compete with these people economically. We live and work in Kokomo, Indiana. We feel that out of the north will come more day work as time goes on, possibly, and a higher wage rate on the hourly basis. That is why we feel we would be more economically related to the North.

Then, too, in any of our business transactions when we have to go out to the Southwestern District meetings, we say geographically we are more closely related to the North, and we are, in this respect: If we have to send a delegate anywhere in the Southwestern District we are not so much further from St. Louis and that part of the country, in a matter of miles; but as far as rail and bus transportation is concerned, we are five to seven hours farther from there than we are anywhere we might go to in the North.

We are asking you to consider this carefully. Local 57 is vitally interested. We do not believe we will upset any political power. We do not believe we will take away from the Southwestern District our prestige, because there are other stove shops that have a higher rate that they can use for a yardstick.

We are asking this as a favor to us, and I don't believe any fairminded union man, since we are not doing this out of peve or pet, but are asking for a springboard for a sounder bargaining basis for our own particular shop, will not grant our request.

We are bargaining with various people, some of the toughest people, and you can ask our International officers about that. We have some of the toughest bargaining conditions. We don't wrangle and fight, but we have to have statistics and figures and must be on our toes constantly. We have a good Union; we have always cooperated with the Southwestern, and we are asking this favor.

I would hate to go back to Local 57 and say that this convention turned us down on this one thing, because we do have a scrappy bunch of people, and they might not think it very fair, and might have other thoughts if we don't get some fair consideration on this request.

Thank you. (Applause)

**BROTHER FOGLESON:** Geographically, Kokomo is nearer the Northern

District. I never could understand why the Northern District consisted only of Michigan. Kokomo is in our back yard. If the brothers choose to be affiliated with the Northern District, that is their privilege. We should permit them to transfer to another District if they see fit. Some of the southern Indiana shops would or should rightfully be kept within the Southern District, but Kokomo is far enough North so that if they choose to come into the Northern District they should be permitted to do so.

**BROTHER KELLER:** While we of the Southern District recognize fully the problems of the Kokomo Local, we believe that we could at least have been extended the courtesy of having this question brought before the Southwestern District meeting held in Kankakee, and which their delegate attended. We believe they could at least have extended us that courtesy.

[The motion to nonconcur in the resolution was put to a vote and was lost, and the resolution therefore carried]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Reverend Hoos is here for the invocation. Will the delegates arise for a moment?

**REVEREND HOOS:** Our Father which art in heaven, again we look to Thee who are the giver of every good gift and every perfect gift. We have lived these days under Thy mercy, and now, as these men, busy with the affairs in their last session, are gathered to close their convention, we pray Thee that this may be a city which shall long be remembered in their minds and in the future of the organization.

Bless those in authority, those who rule in this assembly, and grant, O God, that these movements and these rules that are laid down may be those that will bear fruit for the good of the organization and the future of their industry. We ask it in Christ's name. Amen.

[Recess]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Delegates, Brother Badgley will continue with the partial report of the Resolutions Committee.

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 48]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** The Committee felt that this would create confusion where two men may be paying the same amount of dues, and one would have insurance and the other would not, and it might create dissension.

Therefore, the Committee nonconcurred in the resolution, and I move the adoption of the Committee's recommendation.

**BROTHER JOHNSON:** I second the motion.

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** May I request that Brother Booker be recorded as dissenting on the Committee's recommendation.

**BROTHER BOOKER:** Men, we are bucking that same deal. There isn't a man in this room who wants to hurt an old-timer in any way, shape or form. There isn't a man in this room who wants to penalize a man because he is up in years.

I am sorry, and it's a damned shame that we can't divorce insurance from this thing. It has stymied this organization and it continues to stymie it! Still we continue to go on with it. I don't want to do anything that will disrupt any group of people or create any more friction. The people in my Local are all young. The oldest man in the Local died a few days ago, and he got only \$206 insurance.

If you continue with this insurance business I know you can use it as a bargaining deal in organization work, but men! it's a very poor selling point. Somehow or other the International Executive Board or somebody has got to arrange some way and devise some means to continue these fellows with

their insurance who have paid it. You are obligated.

The Secretary told me today you have over 1,500 beneficiary honoraries to give out. That is an obligation this organization must pay somehow. You can't do it without money. All the old insurance companies faced the same problem you older men are facing today. They say, "We are going to pay \$1 a month for \$1,000 worth of insurance." They got up to forty and they had to pay \$1.25. At fifty they had to pay \$1.75. Then it got up so high they were paying \$12 a month for something they started out to pay \$1 a month for. They all went broke.

You are facing the same proposition. I know it's not right, but if you don't go along with the younger men—it will cost you a little more, but you will otherwise wind up with nothing and you will get nothing.

I would like to withdraw this resolution and not even have it voted on.

BROTHER BADGLEY: Due to the sponsor's request that his resolution be withdrawn, I will withdraw the motion to adopt our recommendation.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Those in favor of allowing the delegate to withdraw his resolution, signify by saying "aye"; contrary, "no". The "ayes" have it, and so be the order.

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 52]

BROTHER BADGLEY: After some discussion, and with the consent of the sponsor of this resolution, the last part of the resolution has been stricken out, from the word "procured" on. The resolution then reads, "That for the protection of the International from damage suits that might arise, adequate amounts of property damage and public liability insurance be procured."

With this change the Committee concurs in it, and I move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 56]

BROTHER BADGLEY: After discussing this resolution, and with the consent of the sponsor, we have added "if the cost is not prohibitive." With those words added the Committee has approved this resolution, and I move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 57]

BROTHER BADGLEY: The action of the Committee on this is to non-concur, and I move the adoption of the Committee's recommendation.

[The motion was severally seconded]

BROTHER GRIMSHAW: Shouldn't that resolution go to the Constitution Committee along with those others? It is a benefit, isn't it?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I suppose the resolution could have been a Constitution Committee resolution. Is there any objection to the resolution being put through the Resolutions Committee, inasmuch as it is on the floor now? There seems to be no objection, Brother Grimshaw.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 63]

BROTHER BADGLEY: The Committee has added some wording to this resolution and then concurs in it. I will read it as changed.

"RESOLVED: That our Vice-Presidents shall be elected in order, 1st, 2nd, and so on, according to the relative number of votes cast," and so on.

With those words added at the specified place, the Committee concurs in this resolution, and I move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 64]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** The Committee feels this is a matter of local autonomy, and that the locals should be able to take care of members in a case of that kind. Therefore, we nonconcur in the resolution, and I move adoption of the Committee's recommendation.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

**BROTHER HOWARD:** At the time I instigated this resolution to Brother Ford of the Northern District Council, there was a peculiar situation in our shop. We tried to have it taken care of by the Local, but the piece workers who carried their lunch would get their stock all ready before going back to work. As a consequence it put a burden on the man who went out for lunch. When he came back it was time to go to work, and the other fellow was already working.

This resolution passed on two readings. At the third reading they packed the hall and voted it down.

I want to have it in the Constitution somewhere so they will be compelled to do it. After talking it over with the Committee we found that it might conflict with the Taft-Hartley law or the anti-labor act, if you prefer, and that it might get the International into serious difficulty. Therefore, I wish to withdraw the resolution, with the consent of Brother Ford.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The sponsor of this resolution is in the Northern District. Is Brother Ford in the hall? I do not know whether anyone else in the Northern District has the power or authority to withdraw the resolution. We are ready to vote on it, and the chances are it won't appear in the Constitution, anyway. Shall we put the vote to the house?

[Cries of "Yes"]

**BROTHER HOWARD:** I ask the delegates to vote this down, Brother Ford not being present.

[The motion to nonconcur was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 65]

**BROTHER BADGLEY:** We made one change in a word in this resolution: "RESOLVED: That the new cards printed have a blank to designate the craft of the bearer."

The reason for the change is that we have no idea how many cards the International might have on hand, and we didn't want them going to the trouble of printing new cards unnecessarily.

With this change in the word from "issued" to "printed", we concur and move its adoption.

**BROTHER JOHNSON:** Couldn't it be simplified by putting it on the dues book? Most Unions have the specification of the man's craft right in the dues book. Machinists do that.

**BROTHER KELLER:** We have the dues book, but you don't feel like carrying a thick dues book in your pocket all the time. This would be a card carried for identification purposes in your wallet.

**BROTHER NELSON WILLIS (Local 74):** I happen to be a general work-

man. What would you do about that?

BROTHER BADGLEY: I would think "general workman" would be placed in the blank space on your card. We have press hands and drill hands and all sorts of workers. The purpose of the resolution is to designate on the card what type of work you are doing.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 67]

BROTHER BADGLEY: This was discussed in the Committee and we find that some locals collect their dues in the shop, and a book of that kind is very convenient for the Secretary to keep his accounts straight and carry them home to place in the general ledger. A lot of other locals do not collect dues in the shop, and it also came out during the Committee's discussion that in most cases the secretaries or the locals themselves furnish the secretaries with the necessary books.

Therefore, the Committee thinks it is more or less up to the locals, and we should not add that extra expense to the International.

The Committee nonconcurs in the resolution, and I move adoption of the recommendation.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Badgley read Resolution 47]

BROTHER BADGLEY: As one of the sponsors of this resolution was on our Committee, we had quite a discussion regarding this resolution. It came out that the Conciliation Service will furnish such a service free of charge, and also the purpose of the resolution seemed to be that the firms would have their time study man, and if the International has a time study man the two would work the matter out together.

It appeared to the Committee that regardless of having such a man, it would cost the International more money than it could afford to pay, and at the same time there would be the same argument between the two time study men as when the men and the firms get together.

It was the opinion of the Committee that it is not necessary to have a time study man in the International.

Therefore, the Committee nonconcurs in the resolution and I move the adoption of the Committee's Recommendation.

[The motion was severally seconded]

BROTHER BADGLEY: Brother Elias wants to be recorded as voting against the Committee's recommendation of nonconcurrence.

BROTHER ELIAS: I think it is a great thing for other locals in the country to have a professional time study man in the International. This dispute is still ripe in the firm where I am working. Badgley has said all I could say.

I would like to add that working with George Badgley in the Committee has been most pleasant. I have been on many committees, and this has been one of the best I have ever been on in my life. Thank You.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

BROTHER BADGLEY: Mr. President, we find Resolution 66 is a duplicate of one that was acted upon the first day, and it is unnecessary to bring it up now. We found that the sponsor of that resolution missed out on the action, and rewrote the resolution and handed it back to the committee. Therefore, the Committee took no action on Resolution 66.

Mr. President and delegates, this concludes the report of the Resolutions Committee. May I say that I have never worked in any convention with a better group of men. We had discussions on all subjects. The men were all friendly and the discussions were on a very friendly basis. I want to thank each and every Committeeman for the best cooperation I have ever had in a convention committee. May I read their names.

[Brother Badgley read the list of members of the Resolutions Committee]  
(Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Chairman Badgley and your Committee, for a good job well done.

BROTHER GENOTTE: I know some of the delegates would like to get away this afternoon. If it is agreeable I think we should set a time for the election of officers.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: That is the discretion of the delegates; the Chair cannot set the time of the election. You may designate any time you wish.

BROTHER GENOTTE: I move that we have the election at eleven o'clock this morning.

[The motion was severally seconded]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: May I suggest that someone volunteer to contact the Constitution Committee and advise them that election hour is called twenty-five minutes from now.

Secretary Kaiser has some announcements.

SECRETARY KAISER: I have a wire from a good friend of ours at the A. F. of L. District in the South, who has been very helpful to us.

"Sincerely regret my inability to attend your convention due to many urgent situations in the South. Congratulations to you and your membership for the fine work in this territory and wish for you a most successful convention. (signed) George L. Googe, Southern Representative, American Federation of Labor."

I have a letter handed to me by delegate Moran from August Swanland, a member of Local 86: "I request permission from the Stove Mounters International Union to sell among its membership a book now off the press, and other books to be published by me shortly. Of course in an orderly manner."

I don't know what his books are about; I haven't seen any of them. I presume they will be along labor lines.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Are other committees ready to report? Brother Moses will report for the Committee on Officers' Reports.

BROTHER MOSES: The Committee has had three meetings and has found that the officers' reports for the last three years are in order. We move that the reports be included in the minutes of this convention.

BROTHER FOGLERSON: Second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Brother Moses, I wish to thank you and the members of your Committee for a job well done.

BROTHER GALARDA: There is a procedure whereby all these proceedings will go into effect in the Constitution, is there not?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: They should be revised by October 1. However,

the chances are we will be in the same fix we were in before, getting a committee to revise them. It probably will be the first of the year, or a little before then, if we can manage it.

I think you are speaking on the resolution that we passed, that one be elected from each District. It is hard for us to know just how much there will be to the work, but we will revise the Constitution as soon as possible, I assure you.

The chair has no right to declare a recess until eleven o'clock. We could dispose of the selection of the next convention city, but all the delegates should be here for that.

BROTHER BOOKER: I move we recess until eleven o'clock.

[Recess]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The convention will reconvene. Are all of the committees in the hall? We will proceed.

There was motion duly carried to hold the election at eleven o'clock sharp this morning. The hour for the election has arrived, and at this time I will turn the Chair over to the First Vice President, Willard Fogleson.

[Brother Fogleson assumed the Chair]

CHAIRMAN FOGLESON: Brothers, the time has arrived and nominations are open for President of the International Union.

BROTHER GENOTTE: Local 32 would like to place in nomination the name of a man who has shown more backbone than the Union and the entire country have seen for a long time -- Joe Lewis! (Applause and Cheers)

CHAIRMAN FOGLESON: Are there any other nominations for President?

BROTHER RECKEWAY: I move nominations be closed.

BROTHER BAKER: I support the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

CHAIRMAN FOGLESON: I will ask the Secretary to cast the unanimous ballot of the organization for Brother Lewis by acclamation.

SECRETARY KAISER: I, Edward W. Kaiser, Secretary of the International Union, cast the unanimous ballot for Joseph Lewis as President of the Stove Mounters International Union for the ensuing term of three years. (Applause)

[President Lewis resumed the Chair]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, brother delegates.

Nominations are now open for Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union.

BROTHER EHRHARD: I would like to place in nomination Brother Kaiser as Secretary-Treasurer of this organization. He is doing a real job. I am in contact with him. He has given me a lot of support, also the locals in the St. Louis area.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Are there any other nominations?

BROTHER PORTER: I move that nominations be closed.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried unanimously] (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I will ask the First Vice President to cast the ballot for the election by acclamation of Brother Kaiser.

BROTHER FOGLESON: I cast the unanimous ballot of the organization for Brother Kaiser as Secretary-Treasurer of this organization. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The next nomination is for Vice President of the Enamel Workers Division of the International Union.

BROTHER SCHMIDT: I nominate John Green.

BROTHER CHARLES WHITFIELD (Local 21): I would like to nominate a man who has been backed by the outstanding men of labor, who stands on his record. Brother Leo Lucas.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Brother Whitfield, may I ask this question: You nominate Brother Lucas; is that for Enamel Vice President?

BROTHER WHITFIELD: I beg your pardon.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The office of Enamel Vice President in our International Union is an exclusive office. You may nominate as many men as you wish for Enamel Vice Presidents, but they must come from the enamel ranks. I thought you might be confused.

BROTHER WHITFIELD: I was, and I withdraw the nomination.

BROTHER WILLIAM LUTZ (Local 42): I move that nominations be closed.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried unanimously] (Applause)

SECRETARY KAISER: As Secretary-Treasurer of the Stove Mounters International Union I cast the unanimous ballot for John F. Green as the Enamel Vice President for the ensuing term.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Under our Constitution there are four Vice Presidencies. The floor is open for nominations of the regular Vice Presidents.

BROTHER HAMILTON: I would like to nominate Willard Fogleson, First Vice President. He has given us a lot of support in the Northern District. He has gotten us wage increases up to 15 per cent in the last year, and working conditions up about 90 per cent of what they were three years ago.

BROTHER RECKEWAY: I have been instructed by Local 69 to support Brother Kenneth Petro for Vice President. He has done a wonderful job on the west coast, and the people there are well satisfied with him.

BROTHER EDGAR TAYLOR (Local 16): I want to place in nomination a man known to all of us. He has not only done a fine job in the Central District, but in the West, Southwest, North and East. I nominate Brother Ray Livingston.

BROTHER WHITFIELD: There is no need for me to repeat what I said before. At this time I nominate Brother Leo Lucas.

BROTHER ERVIN: I would like to nominate Brother Russell O'Neal, who has gone through the work in our territory. He has been with us and has worked with us, and I find he does not tell one man one thing and another man something else. Local 17 supports his nomination.

BROTHER SAM CRAUS (Local 80): I would like to nominate Brother James F. Grubbs. He has been with us for a long time.

BROTHER HAMILTON: I move nominations be closed.

[The motion was severally seconded]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I think it is proper that all delegates have an opportunity to nominate Vice Presidents. Do any of you delegates want to nominate someone else?

VOICE: I would like to nominate James Baker of Kalamazoo for Vice President.

BROTHER BAKER: Mr. President, I would like to have the opportunity of thanking the brother for the accommodation, and respectfully decline the nomination.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Brother Baker of Kalamazoo declines the nomination. Are there any other nominations for Vice President?

VOICE: I move that nominations be closed.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Just a minute. I would like to give the delegate who was going to close it a while ago the opportunity to make the motion.

BROTHER HAMILTON: I move that nominations be closed.

BROTHER MOUGHTON: I second the motion.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: How do you want to ballot for the Vice-Presidents?

BROTHER COOPER: One of the conventions passed an order for succession of Vice Presidents, which we have never had before. It is now a part of our Constitution. Therefore, if anything happens to the First Vice President, the Second Vice President succeeds him, and so on down the line. Are we going to vote first for First Vice President, casting one ballot, or are we going to vote for all of them, and the one with the most votes receiving the First Vice Presidency, and so on?

BROTHER BAKER: Mr. Chairman, in view of this I would like to make a motion that we establish a procedure of voting, to the effect that we cast one ballot for four nominees; the highest number shall be considered First Vice President, and so on.

BROTHER GALARDA: I second the motion.

BROTHER JOHNSON: Do you mean we will vote on four at one time?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: No one has said yet whether you want a secret ballot or a roll call vote.

[Cries of "Secret ballot!"]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: An amendment should be made to the motion to take care of the manner in which you will vote. You can vote by secret ballot without anyone knowing your vote. We did that three years ago.

BROTHER PORTER: I would like to amend the motion to the effect that we cast a secret ballot.

BROTHER GALARDA: I second the motion.

BROTHER GENOTTE: Why don't we say what it is going to be? It is the Australian ballot system; that is the secret ballot system, with the highest man taking the first position.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Gentlemen, something is bothering me. Although I am not too smart as a presiding officer, and this is my first convention, I know this convention wants to do the proper thing.

In our system of nominating an enameler to the office of Vice President, and electing him by acclamation, it appears to me that under this system the Enamel Vice President never has an opportunity to become First Vice President. There is no way to do otherwise at the present time.

You can see how unfair that is. We do elect him by acclamation; we did in this case, but he never could be President under our present rules. I think an enameler would be just as much within his rights to be a First Vice President as anyone else. I probably should have brought this up earlier. That is something we should give thought to at our next convention.

[The motion as amended was put to a vote and was carried unanimously]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The secretary will prepare the ballots.

Three years ago we had a lot of confusion in balloting, so I will tell you the system under which we balloted at the last convention, and I think that is the truest and fairest way to do it.

Each local was allowed as many ballots as they had votes. In other words, a local with ten votes would receive ten slips of paper. There was no local number put on it -- nothing. As they came up and dropped their ballots into the box they had to show they were returning ten ballots.

If there were two delegates to that local (and I am using Brother Wagner's local now because it happens to have an even number of delegates) the delegates could split their two votes. One could take five ballots and the other five ballots, and could split them as they pleased. A local with three votes and two delegates could split one and a half each, or could give one ballot to one nominee and two to another.

Each local will receive as many ballots as they have votes under the Credentials Committee's report. If we don't do it this way, before we are half through the balloting someone is going to say it is unconstitutional -- and it will be.

The Chair therefore suggests we handle it that way, because it is the fairest way to do it. The delegates have a right to split their votes if they wish to. Is that all right with you, or do you want to do it some other way?

BROTHER BOOKER: A question, Mr. President: Assuming we can't divide the ballots equally, and if we vote secretly, how would you vote in this system of one-third vote?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I'm not going to stand here and figure that one out, Brother Booker, but I can easily say that you could divide ballots that way very easily in agreement among your own delegates. You could cut it down to one-third of a vote, yes, if you want to get technical, but I don't think that is necessary.

BROTHER GENOTTE: I Suppose you are going to appoint Tellers to see that the right number of ballots are given to each local, and when the votes come in they will be handed to the Tellers?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: That is right. I am going to appoint the Tellers -- or you can appoint them, but I think it is the Chairman's place to appoint them.

BROTHER GENOTTE: If there is an odd vote, why not let the one in charge of the group take the odd vote?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Let them toss for it, heads or tails.

BROTHER COOPER: Under this system of balloting, which is nothing more than a normal system, there are a number of locals that will vote for only one, two or three instead of the entire four. Is that legal?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: After you cast your ballot one man can vote for them all if you agree to it.

BROTHER COOPER: I mean only one or two candidates. They may

not want to vote for all four.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: It makes no difference. If you wish, you may vote for only one. In other words, you want it understood, and it is so understood, that a ballot is not dead if it doesn't have four names on it. All of us agree that we can vote for one man without voting for all four, and that vote would still be valid.

I am going to appoint an Election Committee, and I shall be as fair as possible and try to pick men from all of the Districts. I will appoint Brother Harry Rose, of the West Coast District; Gene Ehrhard, from the Southwest District; Brother Joseph Galarda from the Northern District; Brother Sullivan from the Southern District, and Brother Joe Elias from the Eastern District. Will the Committee step up here, please.

BROTHER GALARDA: A point of order, Mr. President. A few moments ago the convention voted that we all should vote for four officers. That can be taken as mandatory. The point has been raised that some delegates will vote for only one or two candidates.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: That is a good point. You can ruin our ballot by not listening to this discussion, delegates.

BROTHER GALARDA: According to the motion, everyone will have to vote for four men, unless you want to rescind the former motion. I bring up the point for clarification.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I will ask the reporter to read back the motion that she read a while ago.

[Brother Baker's motion was re-read]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The Chair will have to admit that Brother Galarda is right, and I thank you for calling it to my attention, because I might have been held responsible for that.

According to the motion, each ballot will have to bear four names. I don't know whether you want to rescind the motion or not. We will proceed to vote. Remember that the instructions are that each ballot will have to carry four names out of the group of nominees.

BROTHER REIS: Under the Constitution and By-Laws a man has a right to vote the way he sees fit. Neither the Chair nor anybody else has the right to take that privilege away from him.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The Chair does not want to take any rights away from the delegates. The Chair must observe what the delegates vote to do. I am not going to be held responsible for an unconstitutional ballot. The Chair can only carry out what the delegates vote for, and that is in the record. They have voted that the delegates shall cast a ballot for four nominees. There is nothing I can do about it. If you want to rescind it you have a perfect right to take the floor and rescind the motion.

BROTHER SUTTON: I would like to make a motion that that section of the motion be rescinded, and that we vote for whomever we want to vote for.

BROTHER REIS: I second it.

BROTHER HOWARD: A point of order: Has there been a motion made since the previous motion was made?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: No.

BROTHER HOWARD: Then I believe his motion is out of order.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Just a minute. We were ready to proceed to vote when our attention was called to the fact that we will have to vote for four

delegates. I can't see why, if the delegates want to, we can't rescind that motion. I may be wrong, but if you are going to make this a parliamentary argument, I am going to be in a bad fix, because I'm pretty good at some things but not all things.

You say the motion to rescind the former action is out of order. I don't think it is, because it is on the heart of the matter—the balloting.

**BROTHER BRADSHAW:** The Rules of Order Committee did not adopt Robert's Rules of Order for this convention. This gentleman is following Robert's Rules of Order.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** All those in favor of rescinding the former action signify by saying "aye"; contrary, "no." The "ayes" have it, and so be the order.

The delegates will have a right to vote for one, two, three or four candidates, as you wish.

**[Balloting]**

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Delegates, the votes are all in. There is a point whether we might adjourn the morning session now and come back at 1:30. By that time the ballots will have been counted and we will have had time for lunch. Then we will continue the final session. Would you rather have the ballots counted now?

**BROTHER MANK:** I move we adjourn for lunch, and have the Committee count the ballots now.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[The meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.]

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

July 19, 1947

The final session reconvened at 1:50 P.M., President Lewis presiding.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** The convention will come to order.

The Election Committee will make its report.

**BROTHER EHRHARD:** Mr. President and delegates, we wish to report the following:

Willard Fogleson.....	99 votes
Kenneth Petro.....	205 votes
Ray Livingston.....	244 votes
Leo Lucas.....	148 votes
Russell O'Neal.....	81 votes
James Grubbs.....	173 votes

The order in which they were elected is as follows:

Raymond Livingston—244 votes, First Vice-President. (Applause)

Kenneth Petro, 205 votes, Second Vice-President. (Applause)

James Grubbs, 173 votes, Third Vice-President. (Applause)

Leo Lucas, 148 votes, Fourth Vice-President. (Applause)

That concludes the report, and we ask to be excused.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The Chair thanks the Election Committee for their work in tabulating the vote.

We will continue with our regular business. Brother Baker will report for the Constitution Committee.

[Brother Baker read Resolution 31]

BROTHER BAKER: We have added the following:

"Section 5: Initiation fees may be waived at the discretion of the International Executive Board."

We concur in this and move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

[Brother Baker read Resolutions 7, 20, 19 and 21]

BROTHER BAKER: We find all the way through these that we had a controversy in regard to wording. Fundamentally some of these resolutions are the same. We offer as a substitute for Nos. 7, 19, 20 and 21, the following, the wording to be supplied by the Executive Board in conjunction with the special Constitution Committee which was voted upon at this convention:

"First bracket of dues will be \$1.50 per month; the local share will be 75 cents, the International share 75 cents.

"The second bracket of dues will be \$2 per month; the local share will be 75 cents, the International share \$1.25.

"The third bracket of dues will be \$3 per month; the local share will be 75 cents, the International share \$2.25.

"Beneficiary honorary dues shall remain at the present rate pending the actuary's survey, in accordance with instructions of the convention, and shall be changed only on this basis."

The breakdown by comparison is as follows: The 25 cent dues will become \$1.50 per month dues; the local share is 75 cents, the International share 75 cents, which is an increase of 25 cents for the local, and an increase of 25 cents for the International.

The 40 cents per week dues shall become \$2 per month. The local share will be 75 cents; the International share will be \$1.25, which is an increase to the International of 25 cents and an increase to the locals of 15 cents.

The 60 cents dues will become \$3 per month, 75 cents to the locals and \$2.25 to the International, which is an increase of 45 cents to the International and 15 cents to the locals.

The Committee concurs in this and moves its adoption.

BROTHER GALARDA: I second the motion.

[The motion was put to a vote and was carried]

BROTHER BAKER: That is all we have ready for you now. The Committee asks to be excused to finish up the last few resolutions.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I believe the Committee on Organizing is ready to report. Brother Ford.

BROTHER FORD: The Executive Board has seen the necessity of creating a Committee on Organization, therefore, we submit the following report:

"The laws that have been passed, and the laws which might be passed in the future, show us there is a grave necessity for an educational program in

the field of organization. We suggest that some form of education be promoted in our Districts and union meetings on the topic of Organization.

"One of our first aims should be to teach and instill unionism in the minds of our members and prospective members, and the value of their elective franchise. The value of our unions and their workings with the law can be governed at the polls.

"Pamphlets will be mailed periodically as received by the local secretaries on the Taft-Hartley law. These pamphlets, when received, could be read by the secretary, and thirty minutes devoted to study and discussion.

"We also suggest that each local elect an editor and endeavor to place in the local papers or the local labor papers a forum column on the topics of labor, labor unions, and their necessities today.

"You are all aware of the fact that the women do approximately 96 per cent of the buying, and have considerable to say about the purchase of the other 4 per cent. It is our desire and recommendation that the International and its various presidents and representatives inaugurate women's auxiliaries in all locals for the purpose of promoting the purchase of Union Labeled goods.

"Further, we recommend that our Districts meet as often as possible, for the purpose of inaugurating as uniform a wage scale as possible.

"We also suggest that our Districts make copies of the minutes of their meetings and exchange them with the various Districts so that we will be familiar with the problems of each and every District.

"In conclusion, we consider that the matter of organization is solely in the hands of the International, and recommend that they do all in their power to assist in every way possible to organize each and every factory in our Districts."

This has been signed by the members of the Organization Committee, and I move its adoption.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried unanimously]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I will excuse the Organization Committee with the thanks of the convention. They have done a marvelous job.

I don't know of any committee that has yet to report, except the Constitution Committee. There are delegates in the Constitution Committee who do not want to be out of the room when the convention city nominations are made. Therefore, I suggest that whatever talks we have from the Incoming Executive Board be given now.

In the absence of Brother Kaiser I will read a telegram that has been received from the Battle Creek Federation of Labor:

"We sincerely hope your convention has been successful, that your purposes have been furthered, and that the convention as a whole has been worthwhile. Yours for continued success."

At this time I would like to call upon your International Secretary-Treasurer, the old warhorse of this organization, for a few words. Brother Kaiser. (Applause)

SECRETARY KAISER: Mr. President, Vice-Presidents, special representatives, and delegates to the convention: I have many regrets for those who have not been elected, and I have every respect for the cooperation they have given me. I want to thank each and every one of the delegates for their sincerity of purpose at this convention. We have had the most peaceful convention I can remember in the history of the organization, and I have attended many of them.

We have had our pros and cons, and our remarks have been right to the point. Our committees have worked splendidly. I was surprised to learn we could finish our work as early as this; I am in hopes that we will be able to give every local, very soon, a complete record of the proceedings of this convention, and also complete data on the Taft-Hartley law. The A. F. of L. is having the law printed, and we will get copies from the A. F. of L. for every local, at least one copy and perhaps two if needed.

We have a commercial photographer outside. Many of the delegates have requested the picture that was in the paper last night. The photographer said he would be glad to print them for 75 cents each in a wider border, and he will print 100 or more for \$75. If we have enough delegates who wish copies, the Entertainment Committee will take care of your request if you will pay for the picture and leave your name and address with them. I don't know whether there will be enough requests so we can order 100 pictures or not.

Gentlemen, I hope we will be able to convince those forces working from the outside to invade our forces, and be able to offset them. I hope we will offset anything they are trying to take away from us. I know our President and the Board, as commanded by this convention, will do everything possible to keep us within the ring of the A. F. of L.

In conclusion, my efforts will be toward helping the organization at all times, as long as I am able to carry on. When I reach that point you certainly will hear from me. In my day I have been offered jobs that paid more per year than I could make here in five or six years. My principles are with the Union that has stood by me, and those officers who went before me and fought the battles before I entered your ranks.

I want to thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you very much, Mr. Kaiser.

The next man I shall call upon is our newly elected First Vice-President, Brother Raymond Levingston. (Applause)

BROTHER LEVINGSTON: Mr. President, brother officers and delegates: I want to thank each and every delegate here, and also the members you represent, for your kind and fine cooperation in the past. I thank the officers who were defeated. I know we got along fine together. We made a nice group, and I hope that the Board continues to function in the future as it has in the past.

When you go back to your locals I trust you will put your shoulders to the wheel and back us up, and we will do everything within our power to help you. We are going to need the help of each of you.

Again I thank you for the confidence you have placed in me, and I shall do my best to carry it out. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Levingston.

Next I will call upon the newly elected Second Vice-President, Brother Kenneth Petro from Los Angeles, California. (Applause)

BROTHER PETRO: Mr. President, fellow members of the Executive Board, brothers and sisters: I can't help but remark about the splendid way this convention has been conducted. I can see nothing but sincerity and a lot of hard work on the part of the delegates. I know that when you entered this hall you fully realized this was one of the most important conventions we have ever had.

We realize that from now on we might have harder roads to travel. If we don't get together more strongly than we have, labor will have a hard fight and possibly will be destroyed. I see members here who have been members for many years. Many of the principles they fought for are in the balance.

In the discussions from the floor I couldn't help but feel the sincerity shown on both sides, and that all of you knew that whatever was done was for the betterment of the organization.

I have had the honor and pleasure of working with this great organization for six years as your special representative, and an unexpired term of two years as a Vice-President. I am happy and highly honored in the confidence you have placed in me in the past, and for the ensuing term. I believe in this, I talk it, I sleep it and eat it. I will do everything in my power to help as your Vice-President. (Applause)

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Thank you, Brother Petro, for your remarks.

I will now call upon our newly elected Third Vice-President, Brother James F. Grubbs. (Applause)

**BROTHER GRUBBS:** Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, brothers and sisters: I am bound to admit that I am at a loss for words to express my feelings. The vote today was a vote of confidence. I can't tell you what it means to me. Most of you know my record. I am not attempting to make a long, drawn-out speech. As I have often said, I am not a speaker; I wish I were. What I say comes from my heart. I want you to know I appreciate everything you have done for me.

I spent 26 months in the Navy. It was time well spent, and I received a liberal education. I brought out more fight than I had when I went in. We were schooled in anti-labor laws. Many times I have gritted my teeth when others talked about my people back home.

In quarters one day we heard of a little cotton mill in Alabama that was on strike. The captain said, "Boys, what do you think about taking up a contribution and sending it to those people there, to show them up? You boys are on the job 24 hours a day, doing a job that has to be done, and they're letting you down." I couldn't hold myself after that. I spoke up and said, "Sir, you don't know what it's all about." I was restricted for ten days for saying that.

Just one word about the South: As Joe Lewis told you about the anti-labor law in Tennessee, that labor law is so doggoned tough it makes the Taft-Hartley law seem smooth. We have a fight on our hands, and I know why the Southern delegation is afraid of an increase in dues. Let me say this to the Southern delegation: We may lose a local now and then, but we have to have funds in order to organize the plants. When we lose one we will gain three or four. All I ask of you is to bear with me, and I will do the best I can to assist you.

I have enjoyed my stay in Kalamazoo, and I appreciate everything you have done for me. I am at your call to assist you in any way I can.

Thank you. (Applause)

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Thank you, Brother Grubbs, for your remarks to the delegates.

At this time I am going to call upon the newly elected Fourth Vice-President, Leo Lucas of Louisville, Kentucky. (Applause)

**BROTHER LUCAS:** Mr. President, fellow members of the Executive Board, and delegates to this convention: First I want to thank each and every one of you for the confidence you have placed in me in electing me to your Executive Board. As Mr. Ornburn said to us, I served as an A. F. of L. liaison officer in Washington for three and a half years. I didn't want to take the job. I was your representative in Louisville when President Green requested my release to him for war purposes. I traveled quite a bit, from California to Maine. I met with the various labor committees. I set them up and I worked with them, trying to show them how we could be of some

use to the labor movement in the O. P. A.

We are all trying to keep prices where they should be, so you and I can purchase goods. O. P. A. was destroyed from the very beginning. I remember going to Washington one time, and my one great ambition was that I might at some time come in personal contact with the man who gave you and me the right to organize and earn a decent living. I never had the opportunity to meet him; the only time I got to see him was when he returned from Warm Springs, Georgia, and my wife and I stood on Pennsylvania Avenue and saw the caisson moving up the street, with that great President who loved organized labor riding silently behind it. The street was crowded from the station to the White House with Negroes, Jews, and all other nationalities. They cried as if they had someone in the casket who belonged to them. For days our hearts were sad.

I wonder, when we hear about the Taft-Hartley law, whether he turns over in his grave because you and I have allowed it to happen to us. He was responsible for giving us these laws, the Wagner Act, for instance, so you and I could organize people in this nation.

As I traveled throughout the country and spoke to organized labor and saw the things happening and warned them, they laughed at me. The Taft-Hartley law then came into being.

You and I have a big job on our hands, and a hard job. If we all cooperate we can do the job.

I am happy to have this job as Vice-President. I turned down quite a few nice offers from big local unions and international unions to come back with my own organization. President Green wanted to keep me on the staff there, but I told him I would rather be back here and help build you up and stay here and be in my home town where I was born.

There is only one thing that hurts us in organized labor, and the same things applies in our labor movement in Kentucky: As we begin to fight among ourselves in local unions or in conventions, when we are not willing to get together, and when we don't know what we are fighting about—I'm going to tell this story and then I'll close. I think it very plainly tells us just what we are doing.

Two fellows went up to the top of a hill in the Kentucky mountains. They saw a little boy about twelve years old standing there crying and carrying on, and there was a racket going on in the house. One fellow said, "Son, what is all the racket about?"

"My mamy and pappy are fightin'."

"Who is your pappy?"

"Hell, that's what they're fightin' about!"

Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I would like to have Brother Grimshaw step up to the microphone and install the incoming officers for the ensuing three years.

[Brother Grimshaw installed the officers]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Is the Constitution Committee back yet? If not, we will continue with the talks. I would like to call on the Enamel Vice-President, John F. Green, for a few words.

BROTHER GREEN: Mr. President, members of the Executive Board, fellow delegates, and some of my brothers and sisters: Three years ago I was initiated into the Executive Board at Quincy. After my installation I said

I would go anywhere the organization wanted me to go. That was carried out pretty well, because they chased me around the country quite a bit.

Although I wasn't quite in all the states, at that I didn't get a chance to visit a lot of the locals. I do hope that in this next term, if we don't have as much work as we had in the past year and a half, I will be able to call upon some of the locals, even in the East. It has been rumored that they didn't know who I was. They said, "We never did see Jack Green; we don't even know who you mean."

I do hope that after this convention adjourns we will have more people to assist us in our work, and then we executive officers will be able to visit with some of your locals and really carry out some of the work you want us to do. I actually have been an organizer for these three years, and I appreciate the fact that I was, because I had an opportunity to receive an education I never would have had any other way.

I want to leave one thought with you: I can't help but believe that everyone here came with only one purpose in mind, to better the welfare of our organization. I worked with a man helping to organize a plant, and he remarked that the Stove Mounters were on the march. I have thought of taking our four capital letters, S. M. I. U., and tell folks, "Remember, we are Still Marching in Unison."

You have given the Board a lot of work to accomplish but we have the machinery and we will do what you want us to do. With the legislatures and the legislation before us I know you will all be broadminded. You have been diplomatic, you have expressed your opinions, and you have given me so much encouragement that I am thrilled.

I thank each of you for the cooperation I have received in the past and for putting me back in office. Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Green, for your splendid remarks.

I would like to call upon Vice-President Willard Fogleson for a few remarks.

BROTHER FOGLESON: Brothers and sisters, for my part I want to thank all of those who supported me in this election. I want all of the opposition to know that there is no malice in me for those who of their own free will voted in the opposite direction. I believe in a democratic organization. I believe this organization is democratic, and it is an individual's privilege to vote and sustain the individuals he thinks are best suited for the job. You have demonstrated who you want, and I am perfectly willing to go along in accord with the majority of the delegates here.

I don't know what I will do. I think most of the Northern delegates know I have a seniority which would enable me to go back into the shop. I haven't clearly decided what to do. I do want you to know I will do all I can. I hope this teaches some of you a lesson that we need unity and we need organization. We will find that will mould the International office and organization.

I thank all of you, and all of the friends I have made throughout this country in the various locals. Remember that you are still my friends. I told one of the brothers this morning that I wanted him to use his own personal judgment. It is his voice and his vote, and I am perfectly in accord with the way the election has turned out.

Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Fogleson, for your sportsmanship. There is no question but that your words on behalf of the democratic manner in which the election was held are encouraging to all of us.

Next I would like to call on our present Vice-President from the South,

Brother Russell O'Neal, for a few remarks. (Applause)

BROTHER O'NEAL: Mr. President, officers, brothers and sisters: I am happy to say that I have served for three years, and previous to that as a special representative for a few years. I want to thank the Southern District and all of you as a whole for the cooperation you have given me, and for backing me up in our work.

I have had hard going in my District, and will have still harder work to do since the law has been passed. Throughout the war Brother Grubbs was in the Navy; Brother Lucas was in O. P. A.; that left the entire work on my shoulders, and Brother Kaiser and the President gave me a helping hand. They cooperated with me 100 per cent, and we got along fine.

I don't know how I did the job and kept up without getting entirely off my feet. I did it all because I love the organization and have been a union man all my life and expect to be one until I die. I have worked in foundries for years. In my home town I worked for three different companies when I took the position as special representative.

I want to express my thanks to those who supported me. There is no malice toward those who didn't vote for me. We are all still friends. You elected me at Quincy as a Vice-President. I expect to cooperate with you as long as I am in the field. With your cooperation we will go places, otherwise we will not.

I have enjoyed this city and its hospitality. I deeply appreciate the committee of the Northern District who entertained the delegates. We have all enjoyed it. I will give you support in any way I can, and will help you as long as I am a representative of the Stove Mounters International Union and will do all I can to build the organization.

Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother O'Neal, for your splendid sportsmanship. The delegates will agree that sometimes we do or say things that make us appear to the world at large that we are big men. Thank you again.

The Constitution Committee still seems to be hiding from us. We have a couple of special representatives here, and we might get some other work done. I would like to open the floor to the delegates of the convention, but first I will give the special representatives a chance to talk to you; then we will open the floor to the entire delegation.

First I will call on Brother James Roberts, our new representative from Illinois. (Applause)

BROTHER JAMES ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. President. I am probably the newest member doing work in the Stove Mounters today. I have been awarded a wonderful opportunity, and I have done everything in my power to do what I have been assigned to do. This is something new for me, to make speeches like this, but in time I hope to be able to do the work like your officers are doing it today. That is my one ambition.

I have been a Stove Mounter for thirteen years; I have worked hard at it and I believe in it. We have a wonderful organization and this is a wonderful convention. Incidentally, this is my first convention. Many of you were a bit frightened when you came in here, but I felt the same. I have been elected to conventions many times, but this time I came as your special representative, and I hope I have done a good job.

With the leadership we have nothing can stop us. Our International President and our Secretary-Treasurer, and Edwin F. Kaiser have been wonderful to me, as have all of you. They schooled me and taught me the things I used to think I knew when I was a rank and file member. Many of you in

Local 4 who know me remember how I used to be. A question would come up and I would likely act as though somebody stuck a tack under me. Many things I thought I knew I would argue about, but I have learned in my five months as your special representative how to approach various problems. I have been offered the opportunity to negotiate contracts, which is something I love to do. I also love to do organizing work.

Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Roberts, for your remarks. I am sure the delegates appreciated them.

Now I would like to call on another special representative, Brother John D. Roberts from Northern California. (Applause)

BROTHER JOHN D. ROBERTS: Mr. President, members of the Board, friend delegates of the organization: This has been my first convention since being a member of the Stove Mounters organization. I came from the same District as Brother Joseph Lewis. He and I have worked together through many, many trying deals. We have created quite a friendship in our work. We went through several strikes and we have had a lot of difficulties.

The fight we have had on the Pacific Coast with one of our enemy organizations, perhaps not known to you—you perhaps recognize them as the Sheet Metal Union. In our District in 1939 they went to their convention and established what is known as a subsidiary sheet metal union. In the extreme Northwest, including Seattle, Portland and such areas, they call themselves the Assortment Workers. They are definitely a branch of the Sheet Metal Union and are sponsored by Mr. Byron, their International President. They have the same initiation fees we have in conjunction with their original initiation fee, which in the Northwest is around \$182 or 100 hours' pay, but in the subsidiary organizations it is \$25.

We have had quite a struggle to try to overcome that sort of handicap in that District. I believe that is the only black mark on my record—losing a shop to that organization; at least a couple of them were practically lost.

Your President in 1940 split our furnace shops in the Northern California area with this organization immediately after they were organized, and since that time they have made every effort in their power to gain a complete foothold in our organization; or, rather, to try to take it over, because they claim jurisdiction on all 10-gauge iron or over.

You can understand what difficulty we have with that. I was appointed to this position May 23, two years ago, and I have endeavored to fulfill my position to the best of my ability and as best I knew how. If it is the good wishes of the Executive Board that I remain on as a special representative, I will do all in my power to continue as before and support Brother Petro, our newly elected Second Vice-President, on the Pacific Coast. I had the pleasure of covering up for him in his District while he was in the armed forces.

Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Roberts, for your fine remarks.

We have a convention city to choose, but it is impossible to take that matter up now because one of the delegates on the Constitution Committee insists on being here; I believe he wants to place his city in nomination. I think he is the only one on that Committee to present a nomination.

I wish some delegate would feel sorry for me for five minutes. There isn't too much work to be done. I haven't had a smoke in an hour or two. (Laughter)

VOICE: I call for a ten-minute recess.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Brother Baker of the Constitution Committee will make the final report for his Committee.

**BROTHER BAKER:** We have Resolutions 16, 23, 27, 29, 49, 50 and 51 having to do with officers' salaries and expenses. We have made an analysis of the recommendations incorporated in the various resolutions introduced, and we have come out with a schedule the wording of which will have to be incorporated in the Constitution when it is revised.

We have this substitute motion or resolution:

"The Constitution shall be amended to provide for the establishment of the following salary and expense schedule for International officers:

"President's salary shall be \$12 per day, 7 days per week.

"Secretary-Treasurer's salary shall be \$12 per day, 7 days per week.

"Vice-Presidents' salaries shall be \$11 per day, 6 days per week; the 7th day shall be paid for if worked.

"Expenses while traveling in the interest of the organization, \$9 per day; all other expenses shall be itemized before payment is authorized."

We have a minority report to present. Twelve members of the Committee were present, and eleven voted "yes" and one voted "no" to concur in this. Brother Elmer Fleckenstein requests he be recorded as being opposed to the Committee's recommendation.

On behalf of a majority of the Committee, I therefore move you that this substitute resolution be adopted.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

**BROTHER BAKER:** In view of the fact that we have completed our work, and we hope you don't find any more work for us, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the people on the Constitution Committee. We have had quite a number of pretty warm arguments; however, we have tried to do a good job, and I want to say "thank you," and it has been a pleasure working with you.

I wish you Godspeed back home. (Prolonged Applause)

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** On behalf of the delegates I wish to thank the Chairman and the members of the constitution Committee. They have done a grand job; in fact, I believe all of the committees handling resolutions at this convention should be given a rising vote of thanks.

[The audience arose and applauded]

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Delegates, we have a couple more items of business. I would like to give you a short message and then you will be ready to go on your way.

We have the convention city to nominate and select. The floor is open for nominations for the next convention city.

**BROTHER WAGNER (Local 50):** I would like to remind you that at Quincy we asked for the next convention. We were defeated, and we came here this time and were undecided whether to reinvite you. Finally we made up our mind that we really want the convention. I know we have a city to offer that will show you a wonderful time. Washington is just a short distance away, and Annapolis and all the other places can be visited.

I would like to have you select Baltimore. We will put on a fine convention for you.

**BROTHER SMITH (Local 20):** I would like to nominate a city that is

centrally located, in the center of the country. Hotel accommodations are excellent. There are plenty of places of interest, such as Churchill Downs. We can give you good entertainment and beautiful women. (Laughter)

I am speaking of Louisville, Kentucky. I place that city in nomination.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Are there any further nominations for the next convention city?

BROTHER POTTER: I move that nominations be closed.

[The motion was severally seconded, was put to a vote, and was carried]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: I suppose now we will have to have an election. It will take only a few minutes to call the roll and will be a fair way to do it.

[Cries of "Try it!"]

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Those in favor of Baltimore, signify by saying "aye"; those in favor of Louisville, signify by saying "aye." (Laughter) You guys are the hardest bunch to get a vote out of I ever saw! It's either unanimous or a tie, in my judgment. (Laughter) The Chair has the right to ask for a roll call vote.

BROTHER BOOKER: I don't know whether it is correct or not, but I would like to comment on these two nominations.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Have you ever been to either city?

BROTHER BOOKER: They're a fur piece from California! (Laughter) First I would like to say that the California delegates have talked over the idea of inviting you people to the Coast. We have never had you there, you know. We are growing; we moved up from 5 to 6 delegates last year to 10 this year. The men from California felt it was unfair to ask 95 per cent of the locals to spend all that additional money to send their delegates to California to satisfy the whims and wishes of a minority. We felt we would jeopardize the organization by so doing, and we know it certainly would probably break several locals, temporarily at least, to put them to that expense.

I want to tell a story about Joe Scherelli, who was a delegate at Quincy three years ago. All he got was his railroad fare; he took his own time, paid his own expenses and his hotel bill. We had two locals this year that are not large, and we had to have raffles and promote the money so they could be represented here. \$500 or \$600 for one man is quite a lot of money; it will be \$700 or \$800 if we go to Baltimore.

I certainly would hate to oppose anything that a good man like Wagner desires, but I will say that if you wish to weaken the representation from California by having the convention in Baltimore, if you want us to have about the same number there as here, get it a little closer. I know people aren't going to stand for the expenditure of driving clear across the country year after year for the delegates without doing some squawking. When they squawk loudly and hard enough in California, we eventually will find a way to punish all of you. We'll get even. (Laughter) I prefer Louisville.

[A roll call vote was taken]

SECRETARY KAISER: Our tabulation shows a count of 138 for Louisville and 113 for Baltimore. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The site of our next convention in 1950 will be Louisville, Kentucky.

Brother and sister delegates, as the International President of your organization I would like to say a few words to you. First I want to thank the delegates in attendance at this convention for their confidence in re-electing me as International President for the ensuing year. I am not going to stand

here and try to give you a big, boastful speech on what I intend to do, but I am going to say that I expect the confidence and the support of my incoming Executive Board in all the hard work I know we are going to have facing us.

I expected to get more information from Judge Padway from the A. F. of L. on the Taft-Hartley law. They are sending bulletins to the locals and to the international unions in the very near future. For me to try to tell you what the law is about, would be impossible; if I were to do so I can assure you you couldn't elect me International President, because someone would have flown in here and would have taken me somewhere else to explain it. The explanation of the Taft-Hartley law is something that is going to take years to develop.

I can say this, however: This law will possibly not hurt our International Union as much as it will others, but it is a vicious thing to all of labor. There are some parts of it that are going to help us, but in the over-all picture it is absolutely no good for labor.

In the three years to come it is hard to tell what may develop. One thing I would like to have you delegates convey to your locals is that in order to keep your officers out of jail, please do not jump into quickie strikes, but try honestly and sincerely to bear with us in the months ahead. It is not going to be easy. Some of us have to learn about the law, just as attorneys will have to do. We may have to go to the courts for relief, or the employer may take us to the courts.

We are going to have to use sound judgment, and you are the people in this case, for the first time in many years, the rank and file members of the organization, who are going to be the ones to help carry this load.

I believe there are manufacturers we deal with who are going to cooperate with us on this bill; I mean they are not going to want to harm you or your families in your communities, but we do have manufacturers with whom we deal who are going to try to break the local unions in their shops.

The whole idea of the law is based on that one point. Labor went for many years without the National Labor Relations Act. There were years when unions used to have to go out into a swamp or into the middle of a lake or a bay or on a flatboat to meet, and they still survived.

If we follow the law as the attorneys for the A. F. of L. advise us to do, we will be able to keep ourselves clear, and can build this organization.

This has been my first convention as your General President. It has been hard work, more so because some of your delegates never knew when to go to bed. (Laughter) There was a sort of trail—I don't know how it was posted or marked out, but from 7 o'clock in the evening until 6 the following morning somebody was walking in or out of my room. You didn't give me much rest. I am happy to say I have enjoyed it all immensely. The thing that tired me out more than anything else was that the four days prior to coming here I was driving back and forth to Washington, D. C.

One more thing about the bulletins: When they come from Judge Padway's office we will have copies of the questionnaires mimeographed in our office and sent directly to the locals. If your locals or officers fail to sit around at least one evening or afternoon a week and study each of those bulletins, when the International officers go there they will be asking a lot of silly questions. They will be very plain-spoken questions and answers.

As test cases develop before the Supreme Court, or even in state courts, the developments will be printed and mimeographed and sent to you. We must watch them closely, for the reason that they in themselves will be educational to the rank and file membership if the information is conveyed to them at their meetings.

I want to thank the convention committee personally. I came here a

year and a half ago, and at that time these boys were just as active as you have seen them in the last five days, trying to work out the procedure to handle this convention. They have worked on it for a year and a half, and I'll bet they have worked on it for more than two years.

The boys in the Northern District have worked very hard. All of us owe them a vote of thanks, not only for their hospitality but for the fine work they did at this convention. (Applause)

I don't know what more I can say. I am pretty tired. From time to time you will receive my reports, and as this thing develops I will try to visit the locals that unfortunately I haven't been able to visit. I will tell you one thing, however, that I am not going to visit locals on a good will tour while there is definite work to be done at any given spot. There will be a time in the future, I think, when the work will ease up; but at the present I can't say when it will be.

I hope all of you delegates will return to your homes and families safely, and I thank all of you sincerely. (Applause)

Is there any more business to come before this convention?

BROTHER HAMMER: I would like to make a motion that we give a standing vote of thanks to the locals that helped to furnish the money to give us the grand time we have had at this convention.

[The audience arose and applauded]

VOICE: Has the date been set for the next convention?

PRESIDENT LEWIS: The date is set by the Constitution.

BROTHER BOWMAN: There is one thing I would like to bring up before the convention closes. Since our last convention the grand old man of the Stove Mounters International Union passed away. I would like to suggest that we stand in silence for one minute in his memory, also in memory of all our brothers who have passed away since then, including those who are buried in other lands and who died during the war.

I think the convention should adjourn now, in memory of all our brothers, including Vice-President Bill Egan, who passed away since the last convention.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Your motion is completely in order. We will stand for one minute.

[The audience arose and stood in silence in memory of their departed members]

BROTHER BEAUDOIN: Mr. President, we have heard from our Vice-Presidents and our incoming Executive Board, but we have missed a young man in the office of the Secretary; I don't believe he has been called upon to say anything. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Beaudoin; I forgot that, and I'm sorry. Mr. Edwin Kaiser. (Applause)

BROTHER EDWIN KAISER: Mr. President, incoming Executive Board, delegates, sisters and brothers: It is indeed a pleasure to be in Kalamazoo. This is my first opportunity to visit your city, and after seeing the committees work I have been very pleased.

I am glad to see some of our new locals that are able to be present. If you have followed the Journal you have seen the progress made with respect to Labor Board cases, trials and various discrimination matters. Brother Sheeks has represented Local 126 for the past year, being elected in the place of a brother who has served and had to resign due to sickness in his family.

The Wrought Iron Range Company was one of the toughest and hardest shops to organize by our organization. We have worked on it for the past two and a half years, and I have visited more sick men and attended more deaths than ever before in my life.

We made good progress. We started with seven members and some of the old-timers will remember the fight we had trying to organize the shop. We now have a total membership of around 103. The company is still fighting us, and I believe so far we have cost them approximately \$22,000 in court cases which we have filed with the N. L. R. B. We are now waiting for a report on a decision by the N. L. R. B. on our last case which we presented, on a unit election. We tried every way to organize in that shop, but through the hindrance of the company officials, such as buying off the members (which did happen, although we have no proof of it), we tried a union election. I believe we will be successful, and I hope I can report at the next convention or at the next Southwestern meeting, or publish it in our paper, that we have won this unit election and have set up a working agreement in the shop.

I am glad to see our new locals in the St. Louis area, and I hope at the next convention we will have a larger delegation and more new locals added to our roster.

That will come only through hard work. Anyone having any organization experience whatever knows what it means to try to organize a shop. It takes a lot of time and a great deal of hard work.

I believe I am the only man in the office who has an august title. I carry the title, "Assistant Secretary and Special Representative," but I'm always recognized last, for some damned reason. (Laughter)

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to meet all of you, and I am glad to see so many of you from the last convention—Brothers Galarda, Beaudoin, Bowman, Smith and many others. Thank you, and I am happy to have been with you. (Applause)

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Brothers, when things get tough and rugged we never worry any more. If there isn't a representative in the town or nearby we call up Edwin and he takes care of things, whether it's negotiations or a case before the Board or a certification to be filed, or anything else. The result is that he has become a pretty good all-around man. He is young and he can take it. We're getting older, and we have to have a little rest once in a while. He has done a grand job. I am sorry I didn't call on him before, but, as I say, if you fellows would have kept out of my room at night I would be better able to handle my work up here. (Laughter)

Is there anything else to come before the convention before we adjourn?

**BROTHER FOGLESON:** It has been a pleasure to hear the remarks of appreciation to the local committees. We have worked hard, but we have been amply rewarded. We are glad you have been here. I'll never forget you folks. Should any of you come back to Kalamazoo, look us up. We will treat you the best we can.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** Thank you, Brother Fogleson. Incidentally, that is another mistake I made. I should have called on the Chairman of the Committee to say a few words. Now he has to take it upon himself to do it.

**BROTHER SMITH:** We have an ex-Vice-President with us and I would like to have you recognize him.

**PRESIDENT LEWIS:** I am sorry, but I didn't know former Vice-President Prettyman was in the hall. Brother Prettyman, would you like to address the convention for a moment?

**BROTHER PRETTYMAN:** Thank you just the same, but it is rather late. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you for being here with us. I met Brother Prettyman many years ago; he is one of those short guys we have to look over thirteen heads to see.

BROTHER PETE MARNELL (Local 32): Brothers, I am glad to be here with you. We in Kankakee want to congratulate the convention committee for the splendid reception we had. We have heard from the professional men who have a lot of brains. I haven't any brains, but I have wide shoulders. I have always worked hard for organized labor. I want to thank all of you for the courtesies we have had since coming here. I came to have a good time, but the President put me on the Resolutions Committee and I haven't had time to do more than eat and sleep. (Applause)

BROTHER SEGIDIN: May I express my appreciation of the Entertainment Committee. The program has been splendid and we have all had a fine time. I believe this will be my last convention, because I am not an officer in my Local any more. May I say good-bye to all of you, and I hope you will have a fine convention in Louisville. (Applause)

BROTHER ELIAS: There are a couple of special representatives we haven't heard from.

PRESIDENT LEWIS: That's right, Brother Elias. We have with us Brother Edgar Whitfield, part time special representative from Louisville, Kentucky. Sorry I overlooked you, Ed.

BROTHER WHITFIELD: I have really enjoyed being here in Kalamazoo. I want to thank the Entertainment Committee. This has been the most important convention I have ever attended. You have accomplished a majority of the things you set out to do. I also am glad to be able to go home and tell the boys that your next convention will be in Louisville. We will show you a great time.

We should all go home and tell our members what has happened here, and take an inventory of our own locals and correct the wrongs we have been doing. I would like to quote Daniel Webster. He is to be thanked for putting the word "cooperation" in the dictionary, which means, "Let's all work together." (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Thank you, Brother Whitfield. Now I would like to call on Brother Barney Allen from Massachusetts.

BROTHER ALLEN: I heard someone say we have had so many speakers they were tired of listening to them. I am glad to be here, and glad to meet all of you. Some of you I have met before. I realize your incoming Executive Board has a lot of work ahead of it. Thank you for everything. (Applause)

PRESIDENT LEWIS: Is there anything more to come before the convention? If not, we will adjourn sine die.

[The convention adjourned sine die at 4:20 P.M.]

# Our New Home



1710 N. GRAND BLVD., ST. LOUIS 6, MO.

It is most gratifying to announce to our readers and members that our new residence is now completed as to repairs and the necessary improvements that have been made, we have made this as practical as possibly could be done in order to keep down the costs, and we have had very good cooperation in this respect by those that had charge of the various crews, in making it appropriate for our needs. We wish to thank those in keeping down our costs and the cooperation shown. This achievement is proof of our democratic and solid way of procedure as we have followed for years, and we will not deviate from this principle. This is our monument to our old warriors who have passed away and some that are still with us and may we hope that they may live on in our memories, as the fathers of our great Union.

Fraternally,

EDW. W. KAISER, Secy.-Treas.



# TO ORGANIZED LABOR AND IT'S FRIENDS!

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**Below Firms Unfair to Stove Mounters:**

**Wrought Iron Range Co., St. Louis, Mo.**

**Copper Clad Range Co., St. Louis, Mo.**

**Prizer, Painter Stove Co., Reading, Pa.**

**Richardson & Boynton Co., Dover, N. J.**

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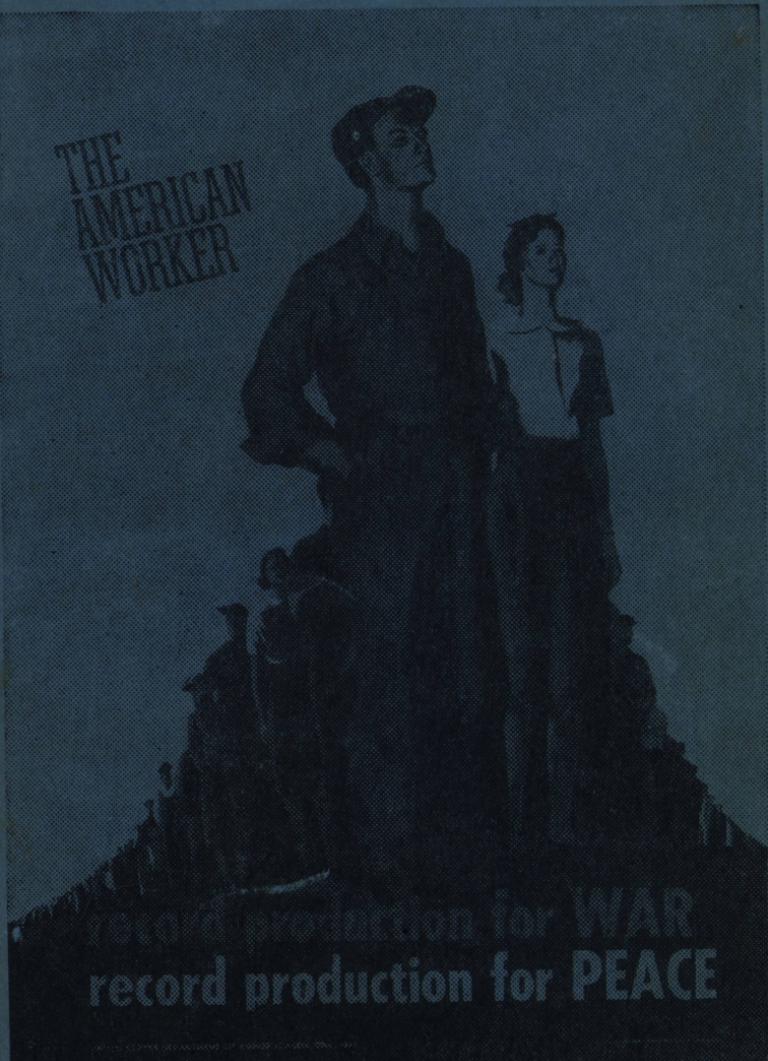
**Stove Mounters' International Union,**

**JOSEPH LEWIS,**

**President.**

## A NEW LABOR DAY POSTER

THE  
AMERICAN  
WORKER



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